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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 16TH DECEMBER.

THIS is the season of school exhibitions. We noticed last week the sound and practical speech of the Lieutenant-Governor at St. Xavier's College. There were three more speeches delivered by three other men of mark, which we have read with pleasure and profit. Sir Alexander Arbuthnot presided at the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Doveton College, and in his address he thus alluded to the East Indian community:

It is often said, and I will not pretend to say that the remark is not well-founded, that the East Indians as a race, labour under defects of character which greatly mar their usefulness; that habits of industry, energy and thrift are rarely to be met with among them, and that to these defects is to be attributed the ill success with which so many of them fight the battle of life and the depressed condition of considerable numbers of them. But while I am compelled to admit, and admit with regret, the general truth of these assertions, the rule, like all other rules, has its exceptions; and it so happens that my public duties have brought me into contact with members of that community who would be a credit to any race and to any profession.

Sir Alexander then gave some examples, which were exceptions to the rule.

SIR ALEXANDER ARBUTHNOT thus adverted to Sir Ashley Eden's speech at St. Xavier's College:

On the first of these points, I was reading only yesterday some admirable remarks which had been made the day before by the Lieutenant-Governor of this Province in a speech addressed by him to the pupils of St. Xavier's College, a speech characterized by that sound and practical sense which marks all Sir Ashley Eden's public utterances. Sir Ashley Eden's object was to show that if the East Indians desire to hold their own with the natives, they must work hard for the purpose, and that it is only by sustained and persevering exertion and by raising themselves above the traditions of their race that they can hope to gain their end. Now, gentlemen, it is a fact that the standard of education throughout the country has risen considerably above what it was some thirty or forty years ago; and this being so, the Doveton College must raise rather than lower its standard in order that its pupils may succeed in after life.

When we see the number of natives of the country who every year pass the higher examinations of the university, numbers which are annually increasing and when we remember that the great majority of these young men are compelled, owing to the amount of competition, to be content with employment of a very humble nature, how, I would ask, are the pupils of this College to succeed in the contest if their studies are to be limited to a standard of education considerably lower? The result of any such measure as that to which I allude cannot fail to be, so far as regards the students of this College, that they will be distanced in the race and will commence life under circumstances far more unfavourable than those in which their predecessors were placed. In my humble opinion the object should be to raise the standard and not to lower it, to be content with nothing less than the standard of the degree of Bachelor of Arts, which many of the students of this College ought to have no difficulty in attaining if they will only work for it. And I trust that the proposal to which I allude, if it should ever be seriously entertained, will be considered only to be abandoned.

Sir Alexander was quite right. What the natives want is a fair field and no favour, and if State patronage is dispensed with an even hand, they will have nothing to complain of.

THE HON'BLE MR. RIVERS THOMPSON presided at the annual exhibition of the La Martiniere. He thus reviewed the progress of Bengal within the last twenty years:

Setting aside our own country, and reviewing the work done in India during the past 20 years, what a marvellous advance it seems to have made in public consideration! I am aware that the subject is not without a ludicrous aspect which suits the scornful and derisive critic; and certainly the picture of the youthful Babu who lisps in numbers and quotes Shakespear and Milton in his applications for an appointment is not altogether a pleasant one. But in truth such a view of things is partial and superficial, and if you measure what Bengal or India generally was a quarter of a century ago, and what it is now, or, more, what it is in the way of becoming, you must recognise that a vast impulse has been given to educational progress. It is not only that schools have been multiplied and universities established—this has been the work of Government alone,—but outside of Government agency, how marked is now the activity of private interest in the cause and the benefits which private affluence increasingly bestow upon the work! Scarcely a gazette issues that does not notice some example of munificent benefaction,—an indication that the responsibilities of wealth and position are becoming recognised as well as their enjoyment; and while our universites at home are giving us of their best products for the Educational Department in its senior classics and high wranglers, there is ground for the just expectation that the results of labors will be good, and sound and substantial. Indeed, generally speaking, what are the results already? You find natives in high positions on the bench, at the bar, and in many public offices; and you see them directing with energy and intelligence the responsible offices of the public press and different callings under private enterprise. Nay, further, indications are not wanting of artistic and scientific attainments which have received even European acknowledgment. We may truly borrow the imagery of the Latin poet and say that the Orontes is flowing over into the Tiber, when Western knowledge, acquired in the English language and Literature, is finding such expression through our native fellow subjects.

Mr Thompson added that he made these remarks because, he told the boys, "the majority of you contemplate India as the scene of your work in life, you will find in the days before you a much severer competition for opportunities of gaining a livelihood than have hitherto existed."

THE FOLLOWING is the full text of the letter from General Kaufmann to Amir Shere Ali when forwarding the sword presented to him by the Emperor of Russia:

"My illustrious Sovereign, in whose empire the sun never sets, and whose raised finger causes millions of soldiers to take up arms, sends this pledge of friendship and unchanging affection to his friend and ally the noble and chivalrous ruler of the Afghans and Beloochees. History teaches that Russia ever espouses the just cause, and that she has always known how to protect her allies from the attacks of an enemy, however powerful. Whoever sides with Russia need not fear that a hair of his head will be injured. The power of the Russian sword is great. This is a fact known to the enemies of Russia as well as to her allies. May God protect and preserve the two powerful Sovereigns—the Czar and the Ameer! May God promote the welfare of the two allied countries, to the benefit of the Afghans, Russians and humanity at large! May the echo of these words awaken consolation and hope where oppression and tyranny are paramount.

MAJOR OSBORNE, Tutor to the Paikpara boys, has been ordered to Quetta. This announcement has elicited the following remarks from the *Englishman*:

Let us hope, that good may come out of it; that the Socratic room in the U. S. Club, and the learned leisure of the Paikpara library may not be exchanged for nothing with the sheep skin postins of the Bolan, and that Major Osborn may fulfil the "better things which he has promised" in the shape of a good account of Beluchistan and Kandahar. Meantime, we are sure that he will show, should occasion serve, that he can fight as well as he can write.

Major Osborne it would appear was on the staff of the *Statesman*, which bitterly complains of the blow thus indirectly dealt out to it.

WE HEAR that a petition was made to the Lieutenant Governor on behalf of Otool Behari Mullick, convicted of murder, for his reprieve or the commutation of his sentence on the ground that the deed was commuted under the influence of liquor. His Honor has refused the petition.

TUESDAY, 17TH DECEMBER.

HOW PUBLIC meetings are conducted in America. Here is an episode. The scene occurred at a meeting of the Montclair and Greenwood Lake Railway:

"While the balloting was going on angry altercations occurred between Mr. Hewitt and Mr. William O. McDowell, each denouncing the other with opprobrious epithets. Mr. McDowell was talking to Mayor Ely, when Mr. Hewitt approached and said something which could not be overheard, after which the following remarks passed between them:

"Mr. McDowell—Hewitt, you were the agent of the Erie Railway, and you sold out the bondholders of the Montclair and Greenwood Lake.

"Mr. Hewitt—You are a common liar and a common libeller. You had better lie behind my back, as you have been doing, and not lie before my face.

"Mr. McDowell—I will place my reputation for veracity against yours at any time and before any body.

"Mr. Hewitt—I claim that the interests of the bondholders are being protected under the laws of the State of New Jersey, and I will pledge myself to see that no injury will be done to their interests.

"Mr. McDowell asked Mr. Hewitt if he could get any one to indorse his pledge, and this query was greeted with laughter by the crowd of bondholders.

"Subsequently another altercation occurred between Messrs. Hewitt and McDowell, during which the former advanced upon his opponent and placed himself in an attitude of assault. Mr. McDowell prepared himself for the attack, but Messers. Stearns and Hassler stepped between the combatants and begged of Mr. Hewitt not to disgrace the proceedings, at the same time remarking that if he had no respect for himself he should have some for those who were present."

Bravo!

MR GEORGE ALLEN, Professor of Greek in the University of Pennsylvania, was a great lover of the game of chess. He collected a thousand volumes on the game in more than a dozen languages, which are to be sold.

THE YELLOW FEVER in America has given rise to a new trick. The *Britannic* says that the yellow fever pestilence has afforded persons, who desired to do so, a chance to be thought dead, for it was easy to get their names fraudulently on the death-roll. Many fugitives from justice are known to have endeavoured in that way to stop pursuit. One of these was the defaulting treasurer of Bloomington, Ill. In India the tide of civilization has not advanced so far. We have not heard of such tricks invented of the ravages of the epidemic faver in Bengal.

IT IS said that Mr. Penn, the famous engineer, has left a fortune of £2,500,000.

A HUNDRED pounds for a pigeon! Such was the price paid for one at the Islington Show. He was a winning carrier, and the price was set upon him by his owner, who was greatly annoyed at having to part with the bird.

THE MOVEMENT for raising subscriptions to present a testimonial to Lords Beaconsfield and Salisbury which was intended to be subscribed to by ladies only' has, in consequence of numerous applications, been extended to gentlemen, and will in future be called "The National Presentation Fund." The ladies should not have yielded the privilege of woman.

THE PRESENT Czar, who completed his sixtieth year on April 29th last, is the only Russian sovereign, during over two centuries and a half, who attained the age said to be so fatal to his race. Of sixteen Russian sovereigns, from 1613 to 1878, only one, the present Czar, may be said to have reached the age of sixty. Catherine of Russia, who lived seven years longer, was a German, without one drop of Russian blood in her veins.

A PATENT is registered for the lighting of street lamps by electricity. A line of lamps in a street is connected by an under-ground wire, and an electric battery attached to a pole being applied to one lamp, all of them are lighted instantaneously. The same simple contrivance will also extinguish all the connected lights by one shock.

THREE REMARKABLE steps in scientific progress and discovery have been made within the past few months: the reduction of the telephone to practical use on telegraph lines; the discovery of the phonograph, by which the sounds of the human voice are mechanically recorded and re-delivered; the liquefaction of hydrogen and oxygen gases by pressure and cold.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH DECEMBER.

THE EMPEROR of China has the power of conferring the oldest decoration mentioned in history. This is the Yellow Tunic, which is made of yellow silk and has on the back a dragon, the arms of the Chinese Empire, embroidered in gold and black silk. It is the most distinguished order in China, and is conferred only on extraordinary occasions. Only two Europeans have ever received it—the Englishman, Colonel Gordon, who rendered great service to the Chinese Government during the Teaping rebellion, and the French engineer Giguel, who built a military arsenal in Northern China.

THE GOVERNMENT of India, says an English journal is considering the advisability of employing war balloons in the Afghan campaign. It is thought that the mountainous nature of the country will render them of great value in obtaining information as to the number and whereabouts of the enemy.

THE FOLLOWING memorandum has been issued by the Board of the East India Railway on the subject of the proposed purchase of the Railway by the Government of India:

"1. That the purchase be made by means of an annuity, terminable on the 14th of February, 1953, calculated on a rate of interest of £4 6s. per cent., on a commuted price of £125 per £100 of capital stock, which gives, including 4s. for redemption of capital, an annuity of £5 12s. 6. for each £100 of capital stock so commuted at £125. But that the Shareholders be allowed an option of leaving in the hands of the Government, for the purpose hereafter mentioned, a proportion not exceeding 1-5th of the commuted value of the capital stock of the company. 2. The existing contracts to cease and determine on the 31st of December, 1879, and the annuity to accrue from the 1st of January 1880. 3. The Secretary of State to enter into a new contract with the

Company for the future working and management of the line, for a term of 50 years, subject to termination at the end of the 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th and 45th years, on two years' previous notice being given by either party. 4. In order to provide the Company with a constituent body for the purposes hereafter mentioned, and with a capital in respect of which a share in future surplus profits may be assessed, it is proposed that out of the capital sum payable to the Company payment of one fifth part be suspended, for such term as may be agreed upon for the duration of such new contract—that is to say, the holders of such capital shall be paid a *minimum* rate of interest per annum, and shall participate in the profits of the line, reverting, whenever the contract is terminated, to the annuity described in clause 1, and receiving the same for the remainder of the term for which the annuity is granted—viz., till the 14th of February 1953. 5. The Secretary of State in Council shall pay, on the amount of the stock of the Company thus commuted, an annual interest of 4 per cent. in London. 6. In addition to the interest, the Company will be entitled to one-fifth of the surplus profits as hereinafter defined, payable in India, the same to be declared half-yearly. 7. The amount of net working profits having been ascertained and declared, there will be deducted :—(1) Interest on the debenture bond debt ; (2) interest on the debenture stock ; (3) the charge in respect of the annuity ; (4) the interest on the Company's capital ; (5) contributions to provident fund ; (6) the interest on the value of stores in hand at the end of each half-year. The balance then remaining to be the surplus profits divisible between the Government and the Company, in the proportion stated, viz.—4-5ths to be the share of the Government, and 1-5th the share of the Company."

FROM an official return, it appears that 203,157 foreigners have been admitted to Parisian hotels and lodging-houses during the Exhibition. Of these, England furnished 58,916 ; Belgium, 28,830 ; Germany, 21,778 ; Italy, 14,968 ; the United States 13,573 ; Switzerland, 11,980 ; Spain, 10,004 ; Austria 8,501 ; Holland, 6,682 ; Russia, 5,725 ; and various other nations considerably less. India's contribution was 386.

AN AMERICAN JOURNAL says that President Hayes, in a recent speech, "showed that during the past thirteen years more than one quarter of the national debt has been paid ; that the annual interest has been reduced over $50,000,000 ; that our public bonds, formerly largely owned in foreign countries, are now mainly held in our own country, so that the government is paying the interest to its own citizens ; and that, as a result of this financial progress, the taxation has been reduced since 1866 $247,000,000." We commend this to Sir John Strachey.

MR. WRIGHT, Chief of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics, shows the value of machinery in the statement that it would require a population of 9,000,000 to do the work without machinery which is now done in Massachusetts with a population of a million and a half.

Lord Coleridge, when charging a grand jury the other day at Bristol, referred at some length to two cases of murder in the calendar, the real cause of which, he said, was drink. Persons sitting in his position, he added, must be tired of saying what was the veriest truism in the world, that if they could make England sober they could shut up nine tenths of the prisons. The large majority of criminal cases began, or ended, or were connected with, the public-houses and drunkenness. Another Justice, Mr. Hawkins, in opening the Assizes at Maidstone said that three-fourths of the cases in which injury, sometimes resulting in death, was inflicted, resulted from the drunkenness of the wounded persons or of the assailant. Indians, beware of the poison !

THURSDAY, 19TH DECEMBER.

A CONTAI correspondent announces with great satisfaction that the Director of Public Instruction has accorded his sanction to the proposal of a higher class English School being opened at that station. The credit of this measure belongs to the Branch Indian Association of the place and to Baboo Ramdhone Sanyal, a member of the Association and a public-spirited gentleman. The former has doubled its subscriptions to the school, while the latter has offered to meet all deficits for the next ten years.

THE PARICHARIKA contains the following letter from some Brahmica ladies to the address of Very Rev. Father Lafont :

Calcutta, 26th November 1878.

REV. FATHER,—We feel deeply and sincerely anxious to hear the unfavorable reports of your health. It grieves us to learn that your exhaustion compels you for a time to leave these shores for Europe. Permit us on the eve of your departure to express on behalf of educated Native ladies our deep sense of gratitude for the kind manner in which you have more than once addressed to us your valuable words of wisdom. You carry with you our most cordial wishes for your recovery and return. May the gracious and glorious Master whom in this benighted land you have served so long and so faithfully, increase your days and crown your good work with success.

We remain,
Yours Respectfully,
SOUDAMINI MOZOOMDAR.
RAJLUKSHMI SEN
RADHARANI LAHARI.
ANNADAINI SIRCAR.
On behalf of the members of the Bama Hitaishini Sava.

We hope this letter has been accompanied with a substantial token of sympathy and gratitude.

ON THE occasion of the Viceroy's visit to Amritsar, in commemoration of the event and of the loyal gathering of the Sikhs at Lahore, His Excellency presented a donation of Rs. 500 to the Golden Temple and promised an embroidered cover to the sacred writings of the Sikhs, preserved there. May not Lord Lytton be impeached before the Secretary of State for patronizing idolatry by those pious people, who lately pitched into Sir Richard Temple ?

RUSSIAN newspapers have lately published information from Baku reporting that the waters of the Oxus had broken down the dam at the small fort of Band and that the Lamdanka-Niab-Kashbegi canal had entered the old river bed and filled the Sara Kamysh Lakes and the Kakhpaliar salt marshes. It is believed that the accident may affect the navigation of the Oxus by diverting its waters and thus increasing the shallows and rendering the river less navigable.

THE HON'BLE E. C. MORGAN, of Messrs. Ashburner & Co., has been appointed Sheriff of Calcutta *vice* Mr. Curtoys deceased. Again the redoubted J. B. R. has been passed over.

WE ARE sorry to hear that Mr. E. S. Moseley, Joint-Magistrate of Pubna, was thrown from his horse on Thursday morning, and died two hours afterwards from concussion of the brain. Mr. Moseley had only just returned from furlough to Europe.

REFERRING to Lord Cranbrook's statement that the finances of India were in a flourishing condition, and that this country could well afford to pay the cost of the Affghan war, the *Times of India* says : "Lord Cranbrook here is telling exactly the same kind of untruth, to use as mild a word as possible, that Lord Salisbury told twice before. If the manager of any bank or trading concern, were to lay such a glowing fore-cast before the shareholders, he would be liable to Criminal prosecution. From first to last Lord Cranbrook's prospectus is doctored and fudged—and fudged in the single idea of preventing the Afghan war becoming unpopular at home." But Lord Beaconsfield's majority can change untruth into truth.

FRIDAY, 20TH DECEMBER.

WE HAVE received the following letter regarding the new educational appointments :

The *Calcutta Gazette* of the 18th gives only three of the seven or eight appointments you announced in your paper some weeks ago. Do you know, Sir, what has become of the other appointments ? Babu Bromho Mohun Mallick was we believe the *first* Assistant Inspector appointed under orders of Government and *his* appointment or rather confirmation should certainly have preceded all the others. But he is nowhere it seems. What can this anomaly mean ?

Babu Radhika Prasanna Mookerjea is appointed Assistant Inspector of Bhagulpore, Babu Bireswar Chakravarty of Chota Nagpore and Babu Kylash Chunder Sen of Chittagong. Babu Radhika's appointment is in fact, as you said it was, an unexceptionable one. So would Babu Bromho Mohun's be. Both these gentlemen are well known in the department ; and it must be men like them whom all people know who should be appointed to such important posts. We had all along heard Babu Dino Nath Sen's name mentioned in connexion with these appointments and we thought it was settled that he was to have the Chittagong Division. Who are these gentlemen, Babus Bireswar and Kylash Chunder, that they should now have the preference over Bromho Mohun and Dino Nath ? We never even heard of them before. On enquiry we learn that Bireswar entered the department in December 1860 on Rs. 50 a month and obtained his last promotion to Rs. 100 in January 1877; that is to say he had had his salary quadrupled in 17 years and is going to have another lift before quite two years are out. The inference naturally is, that he must either be a singularly meritorious officer or extraordinarily lucky. The other gentleman Kylash Chunder entered the department much later i e in 1867. We have not been able to ascertain on what pay he began. But this is clear that in 11 years he has risen to the grade of 200 to 300. And there are we know men in the departments who have served double that time and has not had the increase of a pice during the period over which Kylash Chunder's whole service extends, and in energy, activity, scholarship and general ability some of them would do honor to any service in the world.

Our correspondent will be glad to learn that Babu Denonath Sen's claims are not likely to be passed over. We hear that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor has himself made enquiries about him. Perhaps Babu Koylash Chunder's appointment may have to be cancelled.

A SYLHET correspondent writes to us as follows :

You are aware that Sylhet is a very litigious district and furnishes a good many intricate points of Law to attract the attention of the Calcutta High Court. A very important case has been instituted against one Radha Gobinda Moonshee of this place charging him with criminally intimidating a judicial officer in the discharge of his public duties. The case under notice owes its origin to an affidavit filed by Aradhone Das against Mr. Wight, Assistant Commissioner as mentioned in the *Patriot* of the 9th September last. It is now alleged by the prosecution that Aradhone Das was merely a tool in the hands of Radha Gobinda, who was at that time an accused person in the court of Mr. Wight. As the case is *subjudice* I refrain from making any comments whatever, but I must inform you that the case has created a good deal of sensation in this station ; originally 481 persons were cited as witnesses for the defence and the list did not exclude a single Government officer not excepting the District Judge himself. The Editor of the *Christian Herald* and Babu Nrityagopal Chatterjea, B.L., have been engaged for the defence. The evidence as being given is so startling that it is a pity you have o correspondent here to communicate the same.

Yours faithfully
Mathura Nath Sarma.

The writer can send us short notes of the trial from time to time.

WE LEARN from the *East* that following the example of Behar, the zemindars of Eastern Bengal are about to establish a landholders' association, of which Newab Ashanulla is to be the president.

THE LAST number of the *Indian Charivai* contains a spirited cartoon of the Affghan combat. The whole number has a genial touch of the season.

ACCORDING to the *East* the line for the proposed railway between Dacca and Mymensing has at last been decided upon by Government. It is to begin at Archia opposite Goalundo, pass through Manikganj, cross the Dhaleswari at Gala, up to Fulbaria, and then pass on to Mymensing *via* Dakka, thus traversing a distance of 76 miles. But the order has come from the Secretary of State to stop all new public works, and so this Railway is not likely to be undertaken at present.

MR. BATTEN makes room for Sir Michael Kennedy in the Vice-regal Legislative Council. His famine experience is considered likely to be useful in connection with some business about to engage the attention of the Legislative Department.

AN IRRIGATION BILL has been introduced in the Bombay Legislative Council. Col. Merriman, who moved the introduction of the Bill, said, that the Government had already spent 182½ lakhs on irrigation works, and proposed within the next six years to complete all the works which had been commenced at an estimated cost of 83 lakhs, direct charges ; and if suitable financial arrangements can be entered into, it is proposed to supplement the six existing canals with storage lakes at a cost of 29½ lakhs. Col. Merriman also mentioned that it is contemplated to commence and partially complete within the same period 14 new works at an estimated cost of 113¾ lakhs. The programme of works, with a forecast of expenditure amounting to 200 lakhs for the five years ending 1883-1884, had been prepared by the desire of the Government of India and submitted to that authority. It is not stated whether there is a compulsory irrigation cess in Bombay.

THE VICE-REGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL reopened on Wednesday last. Some small bills, chiefly relating to British Burma, were introduced.

SATURDAY, 21ST DECEMBER.

WE HAVE received a doleful communication on the subject of an order lately issued by the Deputy Accountant General of Bengal, fixing the working hours for clerks of his office from 9½ A. M. to 6 P. M. Press of work, which does not admit of delay, must have necessitated we presume this extraordinary order, but we hope it will not be made permanent. In this season the early hour is particularly inconvenient. Surely the Government which is about to reduce the working hours for factory laborers will have some pity for the poor clerks.

IT IS stated that the whole of that part of the Sundarbuns, which lies in the 24-Pergunnahs, which is not leased or granted to any person, and which is outside the tract declared to be "reserved forest" in 1876, has now been declared to be "protected forest" under the Indian Forest Act of 1878. Will the fuel-suppliers be prevented from cutting down fire-wood ? If so, this measure will add to the sufferings of the people as it is sure to raise the price of fuel.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Statesman* draws attention to the following extract from the Resolution of the Government of the N. W. P. dated the 11th March 1875 :

"His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, N.W.P., is hereby pleased to notify that for the future, unless under exceptional circumstances, the posts of Assistant District Superintendent of Police, Inspector of Police, and Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Jhansi Commission, will be reserved for natives of the North-Western Provinces, to the exclusion of all other candidates. Nothing in these orders, will affect the cases of any officers who may have been already admitted to officiate as Assistant District Superintendents of Police."

The writer then gives the following list of appointments :

G. O. No. 415A, dated 15th June 1877, Mr. H. L. Hutton to be A. D. S., Police.

G O No. 491A, dated 17th July 1877, Mr. G. D. Billings to be A. D. S., Police.

G. O. No 752.—A. dated 16th October 1877—Mr. A. G. Mazne, to be A. D. S., Police.

G. O. No. 943.—A. dated 16th November 1877—Messrs. W. M. Sherer and A. W. Outram Orr to be A. D. S., Police.

G. O. No. 343—A. dated 25th May 1878, Mr. R. Graham to be A. D. S. Police.

G. O. 344—A. dated 25th May 1878, Mr. E. R. Parsons to be A. D. S. Police.

Digitized with financial assistance from the National Archives of India on 07 August, 2017

The correspondent thus remarks :

Having read the promise in theory, you see what it is in practice.

Being an extensive landholder, and having attended several durbars of the Lieutenant-Governor, N. W. P., I was foolish enough to believe on the publication of the Official Resolution that I should have been successful in securing for one of my sons an Assistant Superintendentship of Police ; but all my exertions have, I regret to state, hitherto proved entirely futile.

The correspondent is simply foolish. Did not the great master of human nature, Willie Shakespere say, put not thy faith in princes ?

IT IS STATED that Mr. T. C. Hope has visited Lisbon and successfully negotiated an important commercial treaty with the Court of Portugal which will virtually have the effect of bringing the Portuguese possessions in this country within the customs' union of British India, and doing away with the risk to which the revenues of British India have heretofore been exposed, of the smuggling in of salt and opium from Portuguese ports. The preliminary arrangements of this treaty were concluded with the representative of Portugal at Simla in June last year.

WE PUBLISH an advertizement in another column announcing that an Agricultural Exhibition is to be held at Burdwan on the 27th of January next and four following days ; the prizes are divided into three classes—those for residents in the Burdwan division and those for all-comers. In addition to the money prizes every winner of a first prize will receive a silver medal, and instead of money, winners of more than Rs. 20 in value can have a cup, with a suitable inscription on it, should they prefer it.

BABU MADHUBCHUNDER SEN after a meritorious service for years retires from the Dewanship of the Bank of Bengal? His successor has been appointed in the person of Babu Bunsilal Abirchand, Rai Bahadur, the well known banker of Jubbulpore. The Rai Bahadur it is said will manage the business through the agency of gomashtas.

THE POLICEMEN of Gya must look sharp. The *Behar Herald* says that a batch of police officers who had hitherto enjoyed the confidence of their superior officers has just been convicted by the Sessions Judge of fabricating false evidence in connection with certain robbery cases, and sentenced to five years' *rigorous* imprisonment each. Another batch is awaiting trial

THERE were 457 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 14th December of which 209 were from fever, 28 from cholera, 7 from small-pox, 78 from bowel complaints and the rest from other causes. The deaths among non-Asiatic and mixed races were 26.

YESTERDAY'S RAINS have we fear done much harm. The harvested rice, not yet removed from the fields, and the pulses and seeds sown, will suffer great damage. We hope the rain has not been general.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. Annual Report on the administration of the Land Revenue in Assam for 1877-78. 2. Report on the Administration of the Agra Hills District for 1877-78. 3. Rules and List of prizes of the Burdwan Agricultural Exhibition of 1878. 4. Messrs. Thacker Spink and Co's. Literary Circular for December 1878. 5. Messrs. A. J. Parker and Co's. Monthly Illustrated Prize List of Types, Presses, machinery &c, for December, 1878. 6 Messrs. Cooke and Kelvys' X'Mas Presentation List with calendar for 1879. 7. Hindu Dhurma Tuttwa or Themes on Religious Questions in Bengali. By Rakhaldas Mookerjea. 8. Paricharika—a Bengali monthly journal, Vol. I. Nos 8. 9. Reports on the Administration of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Penal Settlement of Port Blair and the Nicobar for 1876-77. 10 General Cunningham's Archæological Reports Vols. VII. and VIII. 11 Soilashnath—a story in Bengali. By Doorganaryan Ghose, B. A. 12. Forces of the Native States of India. Bombay.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, 16*th December*.—Statements have been published by five members of the Indian Council, in explanation of the votes in favor of the increase of the Native Army. Sir J. R. Perry, Sir Barrow Ellis, Sir William Muir opine that England ought to bear the whole expenses of the war. Sir R. Montgomery and Mr. R. A. Dalyell opine that England should certainly bear a considerable amount of the expenses. Sir Bartle Frere has sent an ultimatum to Catywaygo.

16th.—A report, generally current, states that the West of England and South Wales Bank accounts show a deficit of £350,000 ; the total loss amounts to £1,250,000.

17th.—In the Commons last night an address of sympathy with the Queen upon the death of the Princess Alice was voted. The marriage of the Duke of Connaught has been postponed for three months. The Prince of Wales, Prince Leopold, and Prince Christian have gone to attend the funeral of the Princess Alice. The ministry have announced that, in consequence of the opposition it met with, it is decided to withdraw the Bill for a grant-in-aid to Rhodope refugees. Replying to a question, the Secretary of State for the Colonies said that relations with the King of Cityawygo are critical ; a message was not sent, but an ultimatum and it is hoped his will lead to an amicable settlement. A debate took place relating to Mr. Fawcett's amendment, condemning the motion that the expense of the Afghan war be made chargeable to India. Sir Stafford Northcote explained that it was not intended to charge India with whole expenses of the war. The debate was adjourned till the 17th.

18*th*.—In reply to a question put in Parliament, the Home Secretary admitted that great distress prevailed throughout the country, both in the agricultural and manufacturing districts, but asserted that the reports of its extent were exaggerated. The House of Lords has adjourned for the Christmas holidays, and the House of Commons has adjourned for the Christmas recess until February 13th, 1879. It is admitted that the total loss of the West of England and South Wales Bank amounts to £1,250,000.

19th.—The funeral of the late Princess Alice took place yesterday. The *Standard*, this morning, in a leading article, announces that the British Government would not on any account tolerate Russian mediation in favor of the Ameer. The *Times*, in a leading article, this morning, announces that, in consequence of Russian interference the Roumelian Commission has separated, and will not resume its meetings before April the 15th.

19*th*.—A deputation of British Californians waited upon Lord Beaconsfield to-day. His Lordship said the Treaty of Berlin was to secure the maintenance of peace. Although there might be those who consider the carrying out of the treaty undesirable, the signatories were determined to see it executed. Cyprus was a station not inferior to Malta. Consols 94⅞.

20*th*.—In consequence of representations made by the British Government, the Russian Government has sent instructions to withdraw the Russian Mission from Kabul.

Constantinople, 16*th December*,—Advice states that the Russians at Adrianople are selling grain and horses ; it is rumoured the will evacuate next month.

Rome, 18*th December*.—A new Ministry has been formed by Signior Depretis, who is President.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1878.

THE WAR.

THERE has not been much progress in our operations in the seat of war since our last. The news is that General Sir Sam Browne reports all quiet in the Khyber Pass and its neighbourhood. A telegram from General Biddulph states that he has occupied the eastern side of the Khojak Pass, and has improved the road sufficiently to continue an advance. On the 15th he hopes to arrange with the local tribes for keeping the Pass open. There was a rumour that General Roberts had been surrounded, but it is contradicted. Our Allahabad contemporary, however, says that "the character of the present movement shows that even General Roberts, enterprising as he is, and free to cross the Shutargurdan Pass if he chose, does not see his way to doing anything more for the present. The flying column with which he reconnoitred the Shutargurdan is returning to Kurram Fort, and probably for the rest of the winter the force left on the Peiwar Kotal will be the most advanced British outpost in that direction. Once across the Shutargurdan an invader is certainly in tempting proximity to Cabul itself, but General Roberts has not got a force with him which would justify him in any attempt to push on to the capital. The weakest of the three columns launched against the enemy has done most so far, but it cannot expect to do everything off its own bat." On the other hand some of the border tribes are really giving us trouble. The *Civil and Military Gazette* says that on the 13th instant an attack was made on General Roberts' baggage near Koriah in Kurrum, by a band of marauders of the Mangal tribe. The baggage was all saved, and a heavy loss inflicted on the marauders, although the ground was most favourable to them. We lost 3 men of the 5th Goorkahs killed, and Captain Goad of the Transport, Captain Powell of the 5th Goorkhas, and 13 men were wounded. The Goorkhas who formed the rear guard behaved admirably, and good service was done by some men of the 72nd Highlanders with their Henry Martinis. The attack was unprovoked and at a distance from Mangal country. It is supposed to have been instigated by refugees of the Amri's army, as some men with the Amir's uniform were seen among the assailants. Captains Goad and Powell are badly wounded, the others only slightly. A telegram has since announced the death of Captain Goad. Sir Sam Browne we learn is advancing towards Jellalabad.

Criticisms on the campaign are beginning to pour in. From a European point of view the campaign has not been scientifically organized. The Germans are astonished that our army has been divided into three comparatively weak columns without lateral communications, but the *Englishman* pleads on the one hand an enemy ignorant of the rules of strategy, on the other hand, a difficult and barren country, presenting tremendous obstacles to the transport of supplies for a large army by any single route and incapable of furnishing them from its own resources. But even the *Englishman* is constrained to admit that our Government in planning the campaign has shewn "an unpardonable want of forethought, power of organisation, and ordinary care." The writer continues : "The special knowledge of the military expert is not needed to detect the terrible neglect which could have allowed troops and camp-followers, born and bred under a tropical sun, to proceed to Quetta without the simplest means of protection from the rigours of an almost Arctic climate, though those means were available in abundance in or near the places from which they started. The consequences that have followed are of a kind at which humanity would shudder even if they were unavoidable,—hospitals filled with soldiers crippled for life by exposure ; the line of march marked by the skeletons of half naked coolies, literally frozen to death. The hopeless confusion, too, which up to a very late date has characterised the marching, camping, commissariat and postal arrangements of the same force, has been such as nothing but the utter absence of any competent controlling power can explain. Want of ordinary military care, again, has been profusely displayed in the campaign, in the first reconnaissance of the Peywar, when a weak force was allowed to rush blindly into the very jaws of the enemy, but for whose cowardice *it* must have been annihilated ; in the abortive attack on Ali Masjid ; in the failure to support or recall the 14th Sikhs on that occasion ; in the looting of the baggage of part of the Quetta force, though in view of the total absence of all precautions displayed in the movements of that force, it seems almost superfluous to mention so trivial an accident. The wonder to us is how the Quetta force has any baggage left." Suppose that Russia had been behind the Affghans what would have been the fate of our army ? And yet we pay sixteen millions per annum for our army expenditure. We hope our Generals have not forgotten the art of campaigning.

Is there any prospect of a speedy termination of the war ? Lord Lytton in his address to the soldiers of the Native Princes at Lahore, said that it was not for spoliation the British sword had been drawn. His Lordship continued :

"It is therefore to be hoped that, warned in time by the disasters he has already suffered, the Amir of Kabul will render unnecessary further prosecution of a war which we have not willingly commenced. But ignorance and pride are dull pupils in the painful school of experience, and it may be that the Amir will need still severe teaching before he adequately recognizes the value of the friendship he had so ungratefully rejected, or the power of the hostility he has so rashly provoked. In that case you will share with the British Army its dangers and its successes. You are placed under a gallant officer of dintinguished service and reputation who will know how to lead you. I am sure you will fight as you and your fathers have ever fought when occasion arises. You have been armed with new rifles, and I trust you will take pains to learn how to use them efficiently.

So Lord Lytton does not like to prosecute the war, if the Amir will make peace. But much will depend on the terms, which our Government may offer to the Amir. We know nothing about them. If Russia has kept herself neutral, as she appears to have done, the Amir is sure to capitulate. But the Viceroy has an opportunity to offer peace to the Amir. His Excellency will doubtless reply to the Amir's answer to the ultimatum, and that reply may be so couched as to invite peace. We think that advance should be made from our side too to conclude peace. The Amir's dignity may be fitly consulted without compromising our own interests. All India wants peace.

THE PARLIAMENTARY VOTE.

THE news has arrived that the House of Commons has by an overwhelming majority passed the motion of Government that India should defray the expenses of the Affghan war. The telegram says: "The adjourned debate on the amendment condemning the motion that India should defray the expenses of the Afghan war, was resumed last night in the House of Commons. The liberal party advocated the devotion of the Indian surplus to the remission of taxation. Sir Stafford Northcote said that it was at present impossible to estimate what share of the expenses must be borne by Great Britain, but that it was possible that a vote of credit might be eventually necessary. On this subject, however, he would be able to enter into fuller explanations upon the re-assembly of Parliament. The amendment was negatived by 235 to 125 votes." So the fate of India is sealed. India must pay the cost of the Affghan war. What was the significance of Sir Stafford Northcote's statement that it was not possible to estimate at present England's share of the expenses, but that it was possible that a vote of credit might be eventually necessary. Now, this was what in ordinary parlance might be called a mere clap-trap. There was a large and influential party opposed to the burdening of India with the expenses of the Affghan war, and it was as it were to humour them, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that possibly hereafter England will have to pay something. This was of course neither here nor there. We should like to see the arguments upon which the claim of the Cabinet upon the Indian exchequer for the defrayal of the expenses of the Affghan war was based. But why talk of arguments in a House in which the Government commands an overwhelming majority of more than one hundred? With such a majority the Government can dictate terms on any question. Neither the fiery eloquence of a Gladstone, nor the incisive logic nor the irrefragable statistics of a Fawcett, neither the powerful invectives of a Lowe, nor the weighty utterances of a Marquis of Hartington can avail much with a ministry, which conscious of its strength bids defiance upon its foes, and crushes logic, principle, equity and righteousness by the mere force of numbers. Lord Salisbury in his evidence before the Indian Finance Committee of 1874, in referring to the unrighteous demand of the Home Government upon India for military charges, said that there "is a constant tendency, of course, on the part of the department at home, which have such enormous inducements to save, to get money where it may be had without resistance or difficulty, but that if the House of Commons will keep a sufficiently sharp eye over these matters, I do not imagine that there is any serious danger of India being oppressed." Thus in Lord Salisbury's opinion the House of Commons was the only hope of India. Adverting to this remark of Lord Salisbury a speaker at the Calcutta Taxation Meeting of April last said:

Once a great English orator said that if India were ever lost to England, it would be lost in the House of Commons. He of course, referred to the ignorant interference of the House of Commons with the affairs of India. But in this case it would be seen that if India was to be saved, she could be saved only in, by, and through, the House of Commons, and to that House we proposed to appeal. (Hear, hear.) India had no representative assembly; she had no powerful party interests to serve her; her affairs did not affect the fates of political parties in England; her children were dumb and weak; she could only appeal to the sympathy to the sense of justice, to the conscience of the great nation, which under a Divine dispensation, ruled her destiny (cheers.) It was often said that England's power in India rested on the rock of justice, and it was now proposed to appeal to her for justice. (cheers.) He did hope that the great British nation which showed such warm and generous sympathy in her late calamity, would not turn a deaf ear to their appeal, and refuse to render that financial justice to her for which she had tried in vain for years. Let us then petition Parliament, and leave the rest to Providence!

Alas! how vain were these words. Where is justice? Echo answers—where?

The idol of half a million surplus after paying the expenses of the Afghan war has broken down Lord Cranbrook assured the House of Lords the other day that there would be this surplus, but what do we find now? A later telegram says: "A statement has been published by the India Office to-day, revising the Indian Budget. This announces that the actual surplus has been reduced to £150,000 against which must be placed the estimated costs of the war in order to close the financial year. These amount to £1,250,000, of which sum £260,000 will apply to the accounts of the year 1879-80." So the half million surplus has disappeared. If we understand this telegram aright, instead of a surplus of half a million there will be a heavy dificit of about a million. How is this deficit to be met? By extinguishing the Famine Insurance Fund, starving public works and other improvements, and perhaps by imposing extra taxation! We hear that even poor clerks will be starved. We are told that the annual increment to graded clerks will be stopped This is the way it is proposed to meet the expenditure of the Affghan war from the Indian exchequer, and Parliament was solemnly assured that India was quite able to defray the expenses of the war. Could anything be more misleading than this? We believe the Government of India is opposed to the defrayal of the expenses of Affghan war out of the Indian revenues, though there are some members of it, who seem to think that it may fairly be charged with a portion of the expenditure. But the Government of India has no effective voice in matters of this kind. Lord Lawrence's Government had protested against the charging the Indian treasury with the expenses of the Abyssinia expedition, but what did its protest avail? Similarly we fear the opinion of the present Government of India will not count much with the Ministry in paying the cost of the Affghan war. Possibly if the war be portracted, and if at the end Russia should play a part in the bloody drama England might be called upon by the Government to pay a part of the bill, but not until then. In the meantime India must bleed! This is justice! But will the English nation remain silent? John Bull is honest and just, and will he deliberately seal with his sanction this gross and palpable injustice to India? Lord Beaconsfield seems to be anxious to save the pocket of the British taxpayer for the sake of his own power. It is notorious that the most sensitive part of the Englishman is his pocket, and if his pocket is not touched he does not ordinarily care how matters are managed. Lord Beaconsfield has addressed this weak point of the English nation, but will it suppress its own moral sense? Will it forget its responsibility to man and God in the sacred task of governing the destinies of two hundred millions of fellow-creatures? We pause for a reply.

THE DESPATCH ON THE AFFGHAN WAR.

THE Secretary of State's despatch on the Affghan war has been published. It is a lucid, complete and exhaustive State paper. It gives the history of our relations with the Amir from 1855, and briefly enunciates the cardinal policy of the Government of India, concurred in by Her Majesty's Government. Adverting to the policy of masterly inactivity followed by Lord Lawrence, Lord Cranbrook says: "The views of Her Majesty's Government of that day on the subject of their relations with Afghanistan were in complete harmony with those of Lord Lawrence. They did not desire to exercise active influence at Cabul, not to interfere in the conflicts then rife between contending parties in Afghanistan so long as those conflicts did not jeopardise the peace of the frontier. This policy was, therefore, adhered to, although not without some inconvenient results, during the civil war which raged for so many years after Shere Ali's accession, and might not unreasonably be thought suited to the circumstances of the time. But the final and unaided success of the Amir in regaining his throne in the autumn of 1868, in some measure changed the position of affairs, and in the opinion both of Lord Lawrence and of Her Majesty's Government, justified some intervention in His Highness's favour and the grant to him of such assistance in money and arms as appeared conducive to the maintenance of his authority." The policy followed by Lord Mayo's administration in its dealings with Afghanistan was to a considerable extent in accord with the course of action thus finally adopted in the autumn of 1868 by his predecessor. While, however, Lord Mayo did not deviate in any material degree from the attitude of non-interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan which had been so long maintained, he recognised Shere Ali as the *de jure* as well as the *de facto* ruler of that country, and, in a letter addressed to that prince, engaged to view with severe displeasure any attempt on the part of his rivals to disturb his position. Lord Northbrook followed substantially the policy of his predecessors. The Capture of Khiva by the forces of the Czar in the spring of 1873 and the total subordination of the khanate to Russia caused Shere Ali considerable alarm, and led him to question the value of the pledges with reference to Afghanistan which had been given by His Imperial Majesty to England, and which had been communicated to His Highness by the British Government. Actuated by his fears on this score His Highness sent a special envoy to Simla in the summer of that year charged with the duty of expressing them to the Government of India. Finding that the object of the Amir was to ascertain definitely how far he might rely on the help of the British Government if his territories were threatened by Russia, Lord Northbrook's Government was prepared to assure him that under certain conditions the Government of India would assist him to repel unprovoked aggression. But Her Majesty's Government did not agree with His Lordship. The Secretary of State says:

"Her Majesty's Government at home did not share His Highness's apprehension, and the Viceroy ultimately informed the Amir that the discussion of the question would be best postponed to a more convenient season. The effect of this announcement on His Highness, although conveyed in conciliatory language, was not favourable; the policy which dictated it was unintelligible to his mind, and he received it with feelings of chagrin and disappointment. His reply to Lord Northbrook's communication was couched in terms of ill-disguised sarcasm; he took no notice of the Viceroy's proposal to depute a British officer to examine the northern frontier of Affghanistan; he subsequently refused permission to Sir Douglas Forsyth to return from Kashgar to India through Cabul; he left untouched a gift of money lodged to his credit by the Indian Government, and generally assumed towards it an attitude of sullen reserve."

And yet the Amir is blamed for his alienation from our Government. The position of affairs since 1874 is thus described:

"The maintenance of Affghanistan as a strong and friendly Power had at all times been the object of British policy. The method adopted in attaining that object had not met with the success that was desirable. Its accomplishment was nevertheless, a matter of grave importance and it had now to be considered with reference to the rapid march of events in Turkestan. Her Majesty's Government could not view with indifference the probable influence of these events upon the character of an Asiatic prince whose dominions were thereby brought within a steadily narrowing circle between two great military empires, and although no immediate danger appeared to threaten British interests on the frontier of Affghanistan, the situation in Central Asia had become sufficiently grave to suggest the necessity of timely precaution. Her Majesty's Government considered that the first step necessary was the improvement of their relations with the Ameer himself. With this object in view they deemed it expedient that His Highness should be invited to receive a temporary mission at Cabul, in order that an accredited British envoy might confer with him personally upon what was taking place, might assure him of the desire of the Queen's Government, that his territories should remain safe from external attack, and at the same time might point out to him the extreme difficulty of attaining this object, unless it were permitted by him to place its own officers on his frontier to watch the course of events beyond it. It was true that the Ameer's relations with the Russian Governor-General of Turkestan had of late become more intimate, and that a correspondence which that official had commenced with the Cabul Durbar in 1871, and which at one time had caused serious disquiet to the Ameer, was being carried on with increased activity, while His Highness's original practice of consulting the Indian Government as to the replies to be sent to General Kauffmann's communications had been discontinued. Nevertheless, Her Majesty's Government were willing to believe that Shere Ali, if his intentions were friendly, would be ready to join them in measures advantageous to himself, and essential for the protection of common interests.

"In view of these interests and of the responsibilities which had morally devolved upon the British Government on behalf of Afghanistan; looking also to the imperfect information available in regard to the country in respect to which those responsibilities had been incurred. Lord Northbrooks Government had in 1873 expressed the opinion that the temporary presence in Afghanistan of a British officer, as then proposed by them might do much to allay any feelings of mistrust lingering in the minds of the Afghan people, and might at the same time prepare the way for eventually placing permanent British representatives at Cabul, Herat, and elsewhere. Encouraged by this opinion, Her Majesty's Government came to the conclusion that, although Lord Northbrook's efforts to attain the desired object had not met with success, the time had come when the measure thus indicated could no longer with safety be postponed. Your predecessors in Council had, indeed, while appreciating all the advantage

Taking the six districts of the Brahmaputra Valley together, it appears that, allowance being made for the difference between the Hindu and Mussulman population, the Muhammadans are quite as well represented in the schools as the Hindus. In Sylhet, however, this is not the case. The Report shews that in Sylhet, the Muhammadans have not taken to the Government system of primary education at all, nor do they, in at all proportionate numbers, avail themselves of the opportunities of higher education. It must, however, be borne in mind that the education which comes under departmental inspection is not the only system of instruction. There are, as Dr. Martin points out, uninspected *maktabs* giving some instruction to about 3,500 pupils, and though to bring these *maktabs* under the Government rules, and to give them stipends the condition of teaching our *Pathsala* course, would, it is said, have the effect of driving away their pupils, yet it would surely be possible, the Chief Commissioner thinks to find some *via media* whereby the Muhammadan pupils could get the instruction they require, while the usefulness of *maktabs* might be improved. "Reading and writing," Sir Stuart Bayley justly remarks, "need not interfere with learning the *Koran*, and to give rewards to those *maktabs* which turn out a certain number of pupils who can read and write a little of the vernacular, ought, as the Deputy-Commissioner suggests, to have a good effect, without interfering in any way with the system under which the *maktabs* are at present managed." The state of English education in Assam does not seem to be satisfactory. The Resolution says: "The Chief Commissioner does not regard the results of the Entrance Examination as specially creditable to the Assam schools. Sylhet did well, and Goalpara, considering its small school population, did very well, and the Gauhati School population, did fairly, but Lakhimpur and Darrang both failed to pass a single pupil. Sibsagar and Cachar passed only one pupil each, and from Nowgong two candidates passed. But not one candidate from any school passed in the first division, and a very undue proportion of those that did pass appeared in the third division. The examinations which the Chief Commissioner has been able to make of the Zila Schools in Assam quite bear out the conclusion, which Dr. Martin has independently arrived at, as to the insufficient instruction in English given generally at the Assam schools." The scale of pay in Assam schools does not it seems draw good men. Sir Stuart says: "The complaint is common that the salaries offered to masters in Assam Higher Schools are insufficient to attract, or at least to retain, competent men. The Assam assignment for education does not allow of anything but the most frugal establishment, both for teaching and inspection, but the Chief Commissioner would be glad to learn how salaries, in Assam stand with reference to those given for the same class of schools in Bengal, and what Dr. Martin would recommend as the most necessary alteration, should the Chief Commissioner see his way hereafter to increasing the allotment for educational purposes." Lastly Sir Stuart Bayley, it appears, has accepted the policy of his predecessor as to the medium of vernacular instruction in Assam. He says: "Whether Assamese be a distinct language or not from Bengali, it is a sufficiently distinct dialect to render its artificial supersession by Bengali a work of unnecessary time and labour, and Sir Stuart Bayley accepts the decision, which has practically been attained by former Governments, that it is easier and simpler to provide new text-books in the language of the people than to mould the language of the people till it accords with existing Bengali text-books." We will not discuss the language question here. But we hope Sir Stuart's decision is not final. We venture to think that Assam will make real and rapid progress, the more it is assimilated to Bengal in all respects.

THE NUDDEA ROAD CESS.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN'S character as an uncompromising ruler is shewn to the best advantage in his Resolution on the Road Cess defalcations of Nuddea. We complained the other day that he had not in his resolution on the Calcutta Municipality doled out censure with an even hand between the Civilian Chairman and the Municipal Commissioners as a body, but this was obviously an accident. In his general administration of the country Sir Ashley Eden has shewn a freedom from race prejudice and impartiality, which have not only raised him in public estimation, but has infused a healthy tone into official life. There is now a feeling among officials of all classes that there is a master mind watching over them and scrutinizing their work, that the Governor is no humbug and does not like to be humbugged, that he is not deluded with gilt and glitter, that he wants real and solid work, that he himself obeys the law and wishes that his subordinates should do the same, that he does not mince matters, and that nobody knows whose fate it may be to come under his lashes for neglect of duty or abuse of power. The vigour, keen-sightedness, and even-handed justice, which characterize his administration have as we have said above infused a healthy tone into it. When Sir George Campbell was appointed the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, it was asserted that the infusion of new blood was necessary to restore the health of Bengal administration. But Sir George proved a bull in a China shop. Sir Ashley is a man of a different stamp, and while he keeps a firm hand upon the administrative machine, he does not work only to destroy. His object is to see that the machine as it exists should go right.

To return to the Resolution. It confirms all the facts which we have from time to time published regarding the Road Cess defalcations in Nuddea. The Lieutenant-Governor remarks:

> The Lieutenant-Governor considers that the facts now brought to light disclose gross laxity and carelessness on the part of Mr. Stevens the Magistrate and Collector of the District and Chairman of the Road Cess Committee at the time these frauds were committed. Mr. Stevens is to blame for the following reasons:—
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> (1) For habitually signing cheques so carelessly drawn up;
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> (2) for neglecting for years to see that any proper accounts were kept up, although the forms had been prescribed by Government;
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> (3) for absolutely ignoring the instructions of the Account-General as regards the treasury pass-book;
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> (4) for neglecting to have the accounts passed by a Sub-Committee as required by law;
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> (5) for dispensing with the Vice-Chairman's signature;
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> (6) for neglecting to obey the orders of the Government by having the Treasury Officers' monthly certificate laid before the Committee;
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> (7) for having so little general knowledge of the work going on in his district as to allow in successive years the abstraction of Rs. 11,226 Rs. 18,444, and Rs. 39,791 without noticing that something was wrong;
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> (8) for neglecting from July 1876, to answer the Examiners letters about the adjustment of the grant of Rs. 10,000 and especially for doing nothing after August, 1877, when the Treasury Officer reported that the sum of Rs. 10,000 had been received. Previous to this report the first set of embezzlements had been discovered.

His Honor thus fixes responsibility upon Mr. Stevens:

> Mr. Stevens urges in his defence that a district officer is always hard worked; that there was an abnormal amount of work during the years in which the frauds were committed; that it is unfair to judge an officer with reference to only one branch of his work and that at a time of pressure he was left with an inexperienced staff of officers. He further states that he was often called on by Government and by various departments for advice and opinion on matters of importance; that he has always done his best, and that his reports on such occasions have occupied a considerable part of his time and attention. But Mr. Stevens' want of supervision of other departments has also led to his receiving censure on several occasions during the past year. The Lieutenant Governor acknowledges that Mr. Stevens was a conscientious and in a sense a hard-working officer, but he is quite unable to see any reasonable excuse for his total and complete failure to fulfil the requirements of the law in the management of the Road Cess Office and accounts, and for his neglect to carry out the orders of Government, of the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, and of the Accountant-General, with the single exception that he submitted quarterly accounts and sent in an annual report.
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> Mr. Stevens admits that he does not distinctly remember having examined the Road Cess Office account books but adds that the accountant led him to believe that he was keeping the proper books. That an officer of Mr. Stevens' experience and ability should introduce the Road Cess Act into Nuddea, should for years be entrusted with the receipt and expenditure of lacs of rupees under it, should have the forms of accounts prescribed for him, should forward quarterly extracts from these accounts, and should submit to Government every year annual accounts of his receipts and expenditure accompanied by an elaborate review, and at the end of that time should be unable to say of his own knowledge, whether any accounts were actually kept or not, is quite unaccountable.
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> Mr. Stevens has conducted his duties with such laxity and gross carelessness and indifference to orders and rules that the Lieutenant-Governor finds nothing whatever in this matter to be said in his favor. He has for many years been looked upon—by previous Lieutenant-Governors as an officer of great merit and has been commended for great devotion to the public service. Certainly he appears to have devoted all his energies to his duties, but to have got into the habit of endeavouring to keep all the work of the district in his own hands, and thus, finding himself overburdened with details, to have neglected all attention to matters of really great importance; and he has ended by getting his district into a state of complete disorganization, having been the victim of worthless subordinates in whom he had placed entirely undeserved reliance. His conduct is quite incapable of defence and it only remains to consider what punishment should be awarded to him. Notwithstanding Mr. Stevens' standing in the service he fully deserves to be degraded to the position of a Joint-Magistrate, but on the whole, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that it will be a fairer punishment to leave him to his present position in the list, and to direct that Rs. 10,000 per annum be deducted from his salary, until he has made good the sum of Rs. 25,000, which is little more than one-third of the deficiency which has arisen from his gross and culpable negligence; and a recommendation to his effect will accordingly be made to the Government of India. The Lieutenant-Governor has the less hesitation in recommending this severe punishment, because he cannot resist the impression that, when the first defalcations were discovered in 1877, and the amount supposed to have been robbed was recovered from the family of the Road Cess Accountant, Mr. Stevens must have seen enough to show him that a full and complete examination of the account would have led to the detection of further frauds. The deductions from Mr. Stevens' salary will be made when he returns from furlough, and the amount deducted will be credited to the Nuddea Road Cess Fund.

No right-minded man can dispute the justice of the Lieutenant-Governor's remarks and conclusions. Official responsibility in this country is considered a myth, but when the head of the Government has the pluck, firmness, and sense of duty which Sir Ashley has shewn, it becomes a stern reality. Mr. Stevens pleaded good service in other respects, but Sir Ashley justly holds that a consideration of his past services can not alter the character of the offence, of which he has been convicted, though it may mitigate the sentence. We give below the concluding remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor:

> The case of the Vice Chairman comes next. The facts are that he was Vice-Chairman in name only, and that Mr. Setevens knew this. He did absolutely nothing. He is a man of good position and of the same family as the late accountant. It is much to be regretted that he did not at once resign his appointment on the detection of the frauds committed by a relative of his, which would have been impossible if he had at any time really performed the duties of a Vice-Chairman. He seems to have looked upon the office as actually an honorary appointment, and to have taken no real part whatever in the conduct of business. He should be at once called upon by the Commissioner to resign his office and his seat in the Committee; if he fails to resign, it will be the painful duty of the Lieutenant Governor to remove him from the Committee under Section 50 of the Road Cess Act.
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> Mr. Oltham and Mr. Mosley are also to blame for having signed cheques (the former one cheque, the latter four cheques) so carelessly as to permit of their being easily altered for purposes of fraud. The Board of Revenue will be asked to communicate to them the censure of Government for their carelessness in this matter.
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> The Road Cess Accountant, Bani Gopal Mookerjee, by whom the frauds were perpetrated, has already been tried and sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment. The Treasury Accountant passed all the forged cheques without notice, and was guilty of the most incredible folly and negligence of allowing the Road Cess Accountant to write up the Road Cess copy of the pass-brook and of initialing the entries without comparing them with those in his own pass book. As he has shewn the utmost carelessness and incompetence in this and other cases, he should be directed to retire at once on any pension or gratuity to which he may be eligible by the length of his service. The treasurers who were in office when the cheques were paid, should be transferred to other districts. They were in a position to observe the suspicious form of the cheques, and they should have brough the matter to notice. The same course should be followed as regards any of the clerks in the Collectorate who may have been in a similar position.
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> A list has been given shewing the names of the treasury officers who passed the fraudulently altered cheques. This is not sufficient to determine the amount of blame to be attached to each officer. Some of the cheques might be fairly passed, some might be passed through slight carelessness, while others were palpable forgeries. The list should be sent to the Accountant-General who will obtain and examine carefully all the cheques now forthcoming, and state in detail as regards the cheques passed by each treasury officer, what cheques he might fairly have passed, what cheques shewed some degree of carelessness and what cheques were palpable forgeries.
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> Similar information should be given as regards each clerk in his own establishment who passed these cheques, and he should shew how far each clerk is to blame and what action he proposes to take in regard to him. With the report he should forward to Government all the cheques now forthcoming and should report how the others came to be lost.
>
> He should obtain and compare both the Road Cess and Treasury copies of the pass-book from the beginning and state to what extent each treasury officer is responsible for not having kept them up properly. The Accountant-General should also inspect carefully the Road Cess cheques of all districts passed since 1871, and make special enquiries as regards any which he considers suspicious.
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> The Examiner of P. W. Accounts is now engaged in comparing the quarterly accounts of the Nuddea Road Cess Fund with the Accountant General's figures. This examination should be carried to completion, as it will throw light on the way in which the Road Cess Accountant manipulated the accounts so as to make the balances agree.
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> In future the comparison of receipts, disbursements and balances of each Road Cess Fund, shewn in the returns sent to the Examiner with those of the Accountant-General's office, will be regularly made by the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, and the Public Works Department of this Government will be asked to issue the necessary orders.

the native system established by the great Dewan Purnia at the beginning of this century agrees closely with this, and that system is still in force whenever the new settlement has not been introduced. The demand fixed in Purnia's time has been unaltered till now, except where the Settlement Department has introduced its new assessment, and that Department has wisely abstained from exacting any considerable increase. A sum which was fair 70 years ago must necessarily be easier now: and thus the province enjoys the inestimable blessing of being on the whole lightly taxed. Dry land pays from a few annas to Rs. 2 an acre, and Re. 1 may be taken as a fair average rate. Wet land pays from Rs. 3 to Rs. 10, and probably Rs. 4 per acre will be the average, except for the land irrigated by the Cauvery channels, where the perennial supply of water increases the value. It is said that the land tax does not exceed one-tenth or one-eighth of the value of the gross produce at ordinarily prices. The condition of the ryot in Mysore is thus fair enough, but the recognition of the transferof tenant-right, Mr. Elliott holds, is working great mischief. He says:

A custom has grown up (not, as far as I could learn confirmed by any legal authority) under which he possesses a transferable interest in the land he cultivates, and this right of sale and mortgage is being followed by the same baneful results as in other parts of India. The ownership of the land is fast passing out of the hands of those who are directly interested in it. Any one who, in technical language, "tests the jama-bandi," —that is, who takes the village papers and walks over the fields to compare the actual with the recorded facts, —will learn that this field belongs to a Brahmin at Seringapatam, and that to a revenue official at the head-quarters of the district, and the third perhaps to a trader in Bangalore. Not single fields only but large blocks of land, and sometimes whole villages, are alienated in this way; and the actual cultivator, the old owner, remains on the worst and most precarious of tenures, a metayer tenancy-at-will, paying half the crop to the distant proprietor. In this way the glory of the roytwari system, the union of cultivating and proprietory rights in one person, is departing from it, and a zemindari system is growing up without a traditionary basis, without historical justification, and without the careful protection of subordinate rights which the experience of three generations has introduced to remedy the evils inherent in the less simple tenure which prevails in Upper India. Repeated enquiries have shewn that cultivators on this metayer tenure have been far less able to resist the stress of famine than proprietory ryots; and of the lands left untilled in 1877-78, a large proportion belonged to this class.

We commend these observations to Sir Ashley Eden for his consideration in connection with his proposal to recognize the right of transfer of the occupancy tenure in Bengal.'

The famine in Mysore was due to failure of rain in 1875 and 1876. The average for the whole province was only 17½ inches, or about half the ordinary amount, and this, as in 1875, fell at irregular intervals and unseasonable times. Mr. Elliott says, "with its stocks exhausted, with prices double the usual rate, with its main crop almost wholly lost, with its people already reduced to distress through the failure of the crop of the preceding year, with tanks empty and dry, with its staff of Assistant Commissioners weak, with a body of native subordinates generally inefficient, and with its village system disorganised and out of gear, the Province of Mysore entered on the memorable famine of 1877." We will not recapitulate the history of the Famine in Mysore We all know that it was most severe, that the local Government at first neglected it, and that great spur was ultimately put upon it by Lord Lytton. As for the cost of the Famine, we observe that the entire expenditure for famine relief from April 1876 to the end of July 1878 was 74¾ lakhs, or Rs. 74,75,000. Adding together the diminished receipts and the increased expenditure, the total cost of the famine to the State may be set down at 110 lakhs of rupees. The loss to the peasantry is thus calculated by Mr. Elliott: "The agricultural population may usually expect, after paying all taxes and meeting the cost of cultivation and of the necessaries of life, to net 148 lakhs, which can be hoarded or spent in luxuries; in three years this would amount to 444 lakhs, or 44½ millions sterling. Instead of this, after reducing all expenditure and cutting down their food rations till they died in crowds of the diseases which follow on innutrition, they found themselves losers to the extent of 310 lakhs, besides being 40 lakhs in arrear with their revenue. Thus of the total loss of 9½ millions, 8 millions were the share of the agricultural class." Nor was this the whole of their loss. The mortality among their stock must also be taken into consideration. Assuming the ratio of mortality among the different kinds of animals to have remained constant, 365,000 cows and bullocks died in 1½ years, from April 1876 to September 1877, against an ordinary number of 112,000, or 253,000, say 250,000 in excess. Now, many of these were no doubt nearly worthless heifers and calves, and not many were the best plough cattle, but still we know that a great many plough cattle were included in the number, and that much land went out of cultivation in consequence. The average price per head should probably be put somewhere between Rs. 5 and Rs. 8, and the total loss to the agriculturists as represented in money should be estimated at between 12½ and 20 lakhs, probably about 15 or 16 lakhs of rupees. With regard to loss of human life Mr. Elliott says that through the combined effects of increased deaths, diminished births, and emigration, the population of the province was reduced in January 1878 by 1¼ millions of people. Thus the great fact remains as Mr. Elliott says that the famine has cost the province 9¾ millions sterling in produce, a quarter of a million in cattle, and more than a million of human lives. In return for this, it has got some dearly-bought experience, a larger ratio of cultivated land per head of population, and 7½ lakhs worth of useful work done on the State Railway, roads, and tanks. Such is the balance sheet of the Mysore famine of 1876-78. It is a dismal page, but it will be worth the enquiry of the Famine Commission how far the terrible mortality could have been prevented by a more liberal and vigorous policy in the beginning of the crisis.

EDUCATION IN ASSAM.

THE first Resolution of the new Chief Commissioner of Assam, which seems to bear the stamp of his own mind strong, to be that on the report of the education department for the past year. Sir Stuart Bayley has taken this opportunity to say that the time has arrived for a review of the operations of the education department in Assam for the past year and also to enunciate his views incidentally on the educational policy of Assam. He remarks: "It is time now to review the whole action of the Department during those five years, showing what system is now in force in regard to Higher, Middle, and Lower-class Schools, respectively, the alterations that have been made in the system, and the effect of such changes as the abolition of the Gauhati High School. A comparison should be made between the proportion per head of population spent by Government on education in Assam, compared with that spent in other provinces; the direction in which education can best be developed, should additional funds become available, should be clearly indicated; and the work done by Local Committees of public instruction should be noted on, and suggestions should be made for increasing their utility." We look forward with interest to the promised review. In the meantime Sir Stuart exhorts the district officers to interest themselves in matters of education. He says: "On this subject, Sir Stuart Bayley has to observe that though, doubtless, the Deputy Commissioners take a real and lively interest in the progress of the schools in their respective districts, yet the inspection books of these schools and minute books of the Committees, so far as he has been able to examine them, fail to show such indications of the Deputy-Commissioners' supervision and guidance as the Chief Commissioner would have expected; and he thinks that, in a backward province like Assam, where the district officer is the focus of all authority, and where the departmental staff is of necessity weak and underhanded, it is incumbent on the district officers to take a practical part in the duty of supervising schools, to exhibit publicly, as well as to maintain privately, an earnest interest in the progress of education, and to assist the working of the department with all their influence, and with a fair share of their time." We entirely concur. Sir Stuart thus remarks on missionary schools in Assam: "In some districts, such as the Khasi Hills, they have a practical monopoly of the education of the district; in others they have special subsidies, but the different systems under which they receive these subsidies should be explained, the conditions of the grants should be stated, and information should be given as to how far secular instruction is separated from religious teaching, how far payment is regulated by results, and what amount of inspection, either from Officers of the Department or from Deputy-Commissioners, the subsidized missionary schools do practically receive. The Chief Commissioner will be glad to receive any suggestions which Dr. Martin may have to offer for improving the existing system." It appears that in Cachar, Sylhet, and Darrang only have pathsalas been opened upon tea-gardens. In Cachar the number of such schools rose from six to seven during the year; in Sylhet there were two such schools at the close of the year, against one at the close of 1876-77; and in Darrang there were apparently three Garden Schools open during the year. Dr. Martin's remarks on the subject of pathsalas on the tea-gardens in Sylhet are as follows:

"Two of the pathsalas are on tea-gardens,—one under Mr. Spied, of Laskarpur, and the other Under Mr. Cooks, of Mukinchhara. Mr. Spied's schools was started in the year 1876-77, and Mr. Cooke's in the year under review. The Deputy Commissioner remarks—

"'Tea-planters don't seem to take much interest in educating their future workman. I found them callously indifferent even to the birth rate.'

"For my own part, I have found that it is very very seldom indeed that planters are met with who take any interest at all in the education of their coolies: with very rare exceptions, it is found that they are of opinion that it is against their advantage to have their coolies taught the art of reading and writing. I am glad, however, to be able to report that such managers as have practical experience on this point, and whose acquaintance I have had the pleasure of making, have come to quite a different opinion."

Sir Stuart Bayley remarks "that he will be glad if the subject is brought prominently to the notice of tea-planters, and if the condition on which Government grants are given be made known to them. He is sure that consideration will show them that it is their interest, as well as their duty, to assist in giving children born on their estates the opportunity of acquiring such instruction in reading, writing, and arithmetic, as is afforded by our pathsalas." Education in Assam is making steady, though slow, progress. On the 31st March, 1878, there were in the province 1,175 schools, with an attendance of 34,376 pupils, against 1,133 schools, with an attendance of 31,925 pupils, at the close of March, 1877. There was thus an increase of 42 schools and 2,451 pupils during the year under report. Dr. Martin is of opinion that the increase in the number of pupils is to a great extent due to the exertions of the Deputy and Sub-Inspectors of Schools, consequent upon instructions received from him. This opinion is borne out by the figures given. It appears from the report that in the plains districts 1 person in every 120 of the population and in the hill districts 1 person in every 95 of the population went to school. For the preceding year the corresponding figures are 1 in 129 and 1 in 95, respectively. These figures show that in the plains districts education is making fair progress. In these districts, moreover, the number of square miles to each school has fallen from 26·5 to 25·5. The proportion of boys at school to boys of a school-going age during the year was—

In the plains districts.	...	...	1 to 14-6
In the hill district.	...	...	1 to 11-7

The corresponding figures for the previous year are 1 to 15-8 and 1 to 12-2. The table showing the comparative numbers of Hindus and Mussulmans attending the schools (under inspection) in the plains districts is interesting. From this table it appears that during 1877-78 the proportion of Hindus to Mussulmans at school was 5½ to 2, as compared with 5 to 2 in the preceding year. These figures do not indicate a decrease in the number of Muhammadan pupils, but a larger proportionate increase in the number of Hindus.

learn that the players, who have entered are Messrs. R. Steel, W. R. Lirminie C. S., H. L. Harrison, C. S. J. Westland C. S., R. M. Ross, H. Lee C. S., and Babus Roghunundon Chowbey, Ishwar Chundra Gossain and Annund Chundra Bhattacharjea. Roghunundon Chowbey is said to be a strong player and is expected to secure either the first or second prize.

THIS is the season of compliments, and the *Englishman* pays the Indian subjects of England the compliment of being "positively disloyal" for demanding that the cost of the Affghan war should be borne by the imperial country. Our contemporary says, "there is a painful contrast between the appearance of hearty go d-will and open-handed liberality with which the majority of the Native Chiefs have come forward to place not only their military forces, but their treasuries at the disposal of the Government, for the prosecution of the Affghan war, and the ill-humoured and niggardly spirit with which our own native subjects, as represented by their press and such institutions as the British Indian Association, have resented the proposal to charge the expenses of the campaign, or even a part of them, to India. The writer thus states what he considers to be the cause of this contrast. He says, "on the one side, there is at least a lively sense of common interest, and this is in itself of immense value. On the other side, along with profuse expressions of a desire for the security of British rule, there is an utter absence of both sympathy and sense of duty." Is this really the case? Are not the interests of the Indian subjects of England bound up with those of her own? Have we not repeatedly said that they have every thing to lose and nothing to gain by a change of rule? But is it inconsistent with their loyalty to urge their claims to justice, knowing as they do that England wishes to do justice to her Indian dependency? Our contemporary c ntinues: "None of the writers who object to India being charged with the cost of this war, would probably go the *length* of denying that, if British rule is to be maintained in India, it must be maintained at the expense of India." Yes, none of us desires this. But was the safety of the British Indian Empire in danger? Did not the Premier himself say the other day that there was no fear of an Affghan inv sion of India, that our position on the frontier was impregnable, and that what he wanted was a "scientific rectification of the frontier," which, Mr. Gladstone, an ex-premier, holds, means annexation of territory? If that is the case is it right, is it just, is it equitable that India should be called upon to pay for this ambitious enterprize? Our contemporary says that "indignation is expressed not against the policy of the Government in making war—on the whole, we take it, native opinion supports that policy—but indignation at being made to pay for their own defence." We have shewn that the war has not been undertaken for the defence of India; as for the policy of the war our own opinion has been distinct on the subject. We have endeavoured to show in all our writings on the war that it has not a good moral basis, that the present alienation of the Amir is due to our own short-sighted and unsound policy, that His Highness has just grievances against our Government. This is not our own opinion only. It is the opinion of all thinking men, of the great English and Indian statesmen, who have spoken on the subject, of the advocates of the war, aye, even of Her Majesty's Government. It is admitted on all hands that our refusal to guarantee protection to the Amir against a Russian invasion was the cause of the alienation of the Amir, which has gradually developed itself into open hostility. But whatever the merits of the quarrel with the Amir we have not hesitated to say that our Government, after the repulse of General Chamberlain's Mission, which after all was not wisely planned, could not sit with folded hands and allow its good name and dignity to be trampled upon. But the Mission was undertaken for the sake of the exigencies of the European policy of England, and it is therefore meet and just that England should bear the cost of the war. In law India is not bound to defray the expenses of the war, for the scene of the war lies beyond the Indian frontier. Further, India is too poor to pay the cost, particularly when it has just emerged from the horrors of a most disastrous famine, and when it has been lately saddled with heavy famine taxation. When thus in law, equity, and humanity India ought not to be charged with the cost of the war, is it "disloyal" on our part to say so? Happily we are in good company. We are in the company of Indian statesmen like Lords Halifax, Northbrook and Lawrence, and national leaders of the United Kingdom like Messrs. Gladstone, Lowe and Fawcett, and a host of others, whom we need not name. Are these statesmen and leaders traitors to their country? We dare say that the *Englishman* will not go to that length, and if he cannot impeach them his sense of justice ought to have prevented him from indulging in such a wholesale tirade against the poor Indian subjects of England.

WE ARE glad to see it stated that the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta will be strengthened by the following appointments: Mr. George Yule, of Messrs. A. Yule and Co., Babu Jadu Lal Mullik, Mr. D. J. Zemin, and Mr. Westland, the Accountant-General. All these gentlemen are unexceptionable. The appointment of Mr. Westland ought to be considered a matter of congratulation for the Municipality. He is the rising star of the Financial Department, and some day he will probably fill the office of Financial Secretary to the Government of India. He is a very able, intelligent, and quick-witted officer, and if he will really work and put the municipal accounts to order, the Municipality will decidedly gain. We do hope that Mr. Westland will give some portion of his time to municipal work.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Government of Bengal is maturing a scheme for the examination and auditing of municipal accounts throughout these provinces. The idea we believe is to organize a Municipal Accountants Department, whose duty it shall be through local inspectors to supervise and audit municipal accounts. Mr. Taylor of the Accounts Branch is likely to be appointed Inspector-General of municipal accounts. A better selection could not be made.

THE Town Band is a Town institution, but we are sorry to see that it is drooping away for lack of support. Its funds are low, and the salaries of the bandmen are in arrear for two months. As the Band discourses European music, it is we admit the primary duty of the European community of the town to maintain it, and it certainly reflects no credit upon the merchant princes, the high officials, and other rich Europeans dwelling in the metropolis of the empire that they cannot support this institution, which does not cost more than Rs. 1300 a month. Our countrymen may undoubtedly say that they care for their national music, but they too have some interest in the maintenance of the Town Band. Many of them visit the Eden Gardens for their evening constitutional, and enjoy the music of the Town Band. Surely they ought to pay something for what they enjoy. Then the Town Band is employed by wealthy native gentlemen on occasions of marriages and similar rejoicings, but if the Band dies from want of support they cannot obtain its services. We therefore hope that wealthy native gentlemen, who are thus interested in the new Band, will contribute their quota towards its maintenance.

WE HEAR that in some districts Hindu priests have been assessed with the License tax. But this question was raised at the time of Mr. Massey's License tax on the representation of the Khurdah Gossains, and it was ruled that they were not liable to the tax. We learn that the priests of Gya made a representation to the Collector to that effect and that they have been exempted.

WE HEAR that the Government of India has ordered that the fugitive Princes of Burmah should take up their quarters at Calcutta instead of at Rangoon. Their presence in Rangoon may give rise to intrigue and trouble, but in Calcutta they will breathe a freer atmosphere. We think this is a wise decision. Mr. Forbes, Joint Magistrate, 24-Pergunnahs, has been charged with their care.

WE ARE requested to give a prominent insertion to the following notice issued by the National Indian Association:

The Committee of the National Indian Association having provided certain funds for the promotion of higher education among Indian girls in Bengal, it has been decided to offer a *Scholarship of five Rupees a month, tenable for two years*, to be competed for on the condition that the holder thereof become a *Boarder at the Bethune School in Calcutta*.

The entire charge for Board and Education at the Bethune School amounts to Rs. 11 per mensem, so that the parents or guardians of the successful candidate will have to pay Rs. 6 a month over andove dathe amount of the Scholarship.

It must be further understood that the Scholarship will be forfeited on the holder thereof ceasing to reside in the School.

The Scholarship will be awarded by merit at an Examination, the time and place of which will be communicated to candidates hereafter.

Applications from intending competitors should be submitted not later than the 31 January, 1879 to

M. S. KNIGHT,
Honorary Secretary Bengal Branch,
National Indian Association,
4½ Esplanade Row,
Calcutta.

THE HEALTH-OFFICER'S report for Calcutta for the month of November contains the following remarks:

The death rate of November, viz, 59 2 per 1,000 of population per annum, exceeded the previous month by 13.9, and exceeded also all the corresponding rates of the decade. This increase was chiefly caused by the extraordinarily high fever mortality. In the month under review the deaths from fever were excessive. Against a decennial average of 576, and against the highest number on record in the decade, viz, 761 in 1877, the deaths in November were 949 a figure which is more than half of the total mortality of the entire month It is not yet possible to compare the mortality with that of the surrounding districts, but the figures of the previous months shew that the town has hitherto enjoyed advantage in actual numbers over the suburbs in respect to the prevalence or fatality of fevers. Small pox proved fatal to 7 persons in November against 11 in October. There were 84 deaths from cholera, a number which shows a considerable reduction on the average number of the decade, and is nearly equal to that of the corresponding month of 1877. Deaths, from bowel complaints exceeded by 114 the average mortality which is 194 From diseases registered under "other causes" there were 529 deaths, which exceeded the corresponding month of all the years of the decade. This excess was chiefly due to increase in infant deaths.

Now, what is the cause of this extraordinary fever mortality? Surely the Health-Officer will not seriously attribute it to the price of brinjals. It is worth his while to enquire how far subsoil humidity has influenced this extraordinary rate of fever mortality. He ought to localize the fever deaths, and see whether or no the drainage of the localities, where the fever mortality has been most prevalent, is in a satisfactory state. He will we think do more practical good by looking into the drainage of the town than by airing his speculations about rise in prices increasing fever mortality. The fall in cholera deaths is satisfactory and significant, notwithstanding Dr. Payne's theory of wholesale tank-filling.

WE GIVE a prominent insertion to the following telegram from Lahore dated the 19th instant:

Lahor, December 19.—The Viceroy inspected the Panjab contingents under General Watson on Tuesday afternoon. The troops of Patiala, Jhind, Nabha, Kapurthala, Sirmur and Faridkot numbered 2,500 infantry and 1,000 cavalry, with 15 guns. After the inspection and marching past, the Viceroy, addressing the General and Commanding Officers, expressed his pride and pleasure at reviewing the contingents before they went to the front. He stated that from all parts of India chiefs and feudatories of all degrees had, unsolicited, placed their troops, revenues and personal cooperation at the disposal of the Government. The services of all Sikh, Mahomedan, and Rajput chiefs and sirdars of the Panjab had been spontaneously and promply offered. The services of only a limited number could at present be accepted, but Government would remember the offers and claim the services of a greater number if required. Her Majesty had appreciated the loyalty of all. After referring to the Chiefs furnishing the contingents, His Excellency spoke nearly as follows: For this, and not for spoliation, we have drawn the sword. It is therefore to be hoped that, warned in time by the disasters he has already suffered, the Amir of Kabul will render unnecessary further prosecution of a war which we have not willingly commenced. But ignorance and pride are dull pupils in the painful school of experience, and it may be that the Amir will need still severe teaching before he adequately recognizes the value of the friendship he had so ungratefully rejected, or the power of the hostility he has so rashly provoked. In that case you will share with the British Army its dangers and its successes. You are placed under a gallant officer of distinguished service and reputation who will know how to lead you. I am sure you will fight as you and your fathers have fought when occasion arises. You have been armed with new rifles, and I trust you will take pains to learn how to use them efficiently. Wherever you go, pray remember that discipline and good behaviour are the surest tokens of good troops. I congratulate your Chiefs most heartily on the appearance presented by the contingents this day reviewed by me. I shall have great pleasure in favorably reporting to Her Majesty the Empress my impressions of this review, and I now wish you all prosperity, success and

The Examiner should arrange to obtain from the Accountant General quarterly statements as will enable him to check the accounts sent him by the Committees, and the thorough inspection of the road fund accounts will be entrusted to official inspectors, if the scheme for the appointment of such officers, now under consideration is adopted.

The Magistrate must endeavour to recover, as much more as possible of the money embezzled, and he should spare no effort to detect any accomplice who may have helped the accountant in his misconduct.

We have given the above extract *in extenso*, because it has a wider application than the Road Cess Committee of Nuddea. We hope other district Committees will take warning, and look after their own houses.

KUCH BEHAR.

We have before us the last administration report of the Kuch Behar State. The chief of this State is partly a tributary prince and partly a British subject. He has sovereign powers in his state, but as a proprietor of estates lying in British territories, he is subject to the laws of British India. The principal event of the year is the marriage of the Raja of Kuch Behar to the daughter of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen. The Deputy Commissioner, Mr. G. T. Dalton, who has written the report, gives the following account of the marriage :

The principal event of the year was the Rajah's marriage, which was celebrated on the 6th March at the Rajbari in Cooch Behar, in the presence of a large assemblage of spectators both Native and European. The difficulty of reconciling the Hindoo and Brahmo ceremonial forms was as may be imagined an arduous one. It was necessary to the legality of the marriage that the rites should be Hindoo in all essential features. After much deliberation and argument Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen was brought to see that the Rajah not being a Brahmo, and the Brahmo marriage Act not being in force in Cooch Behar, it was absolutely essential that the marriage, if it took place at all, should be a Hindoo marriage. Idolatrous mantras were however, excluded, and the name of the Deity substituted wherever local custom had introduced that of any particular idol. The best proof of the perfect orthodoxy of the marriage is that the Brahmins consented to perform it. They were not by any means under our thumb, and in one matter, the performance of the *Hom* ceremony, which is strictly speaking the adoration of fire, they refused altogether to give way, or to dispense with the presence of the bride and bridegroom. Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen was equally determined that his daughter should not assist at an idolatrous ceremony. The matter was ultimately arranged by the Brahmins consenting to the removal of the bride on some pretext, before they performed the mystic ceremony. As this did not come off till 3 a. m., and as the poor young lady had been sitting in an uncomfortable attitude for about five hours, the excuse for removing her could not be called a pretext. The Rajah remained present during the ceremony, but took no part in it. The marriage has since been formally declared legal by the Commissioner, acting under Government as the law-giving power, and his declaration to that effect has been filed among the permanent records in the archives of Cooch Behar. In connection with this event I wish to record my sense of the valuable assistance rendered by Baboo Kali Komul Lahiri, the Dwar Mooktear, an old and faithful servant of the Rajah's family, not only in his position as principal officer of the Household, but also as a Bramin, in smoothing over difficulties which arose, and in reconciling the adverse factions of Pundits and Brahmons. The Cooch Behar Pundit sent to Calcutta to arrange the form of ceremony, had not conducted the negociation in a very straightforward manner, and the consequence was that I and the Dewan found ourselves in a very difficult position on the very eve of the marriage. In arranging these difficulties the Dwar Mooktear's influence was of the greatest assistance to us, and enabled us to discriminate between what orthodoxy really demanded, and what bigotry was unwilling to give up.

The Government of Bengal in its Resolution on the report makes the following remarks on the above:

The principal event of the year was the marriage of the Raja to the daughter of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen, the leader of the Brahmo Somaj. The marriage was celebrated on the 6th March 1878, at the Rajbari in Cooch Behar, in the presence of a large assemblage, composed of natives and Europeans. Some difficulty was experienced in reconciling the Hindu and Brahmo ceremonial forms; for the Raja is not a Brahmo, it was necessary to the legality of the marriage that the rites should be in accordance with the Hindu religion. The ordinary Hindu ceremony was modified so as to meet the wishes of Babu Keshub Chunder Sen; but the fact that Brahmins consented to perform it, shows that the marriage was recognized by the Hindus as orthodox. Shortly after his marriage the Rajah left India on a visit to Europe, and he is expected to return to the country in March 1879. Suitable arrangements have been made for the residence of the Rani with her father, and for her education during the Raja's absence.

The expenses of the marriage we are told amounted to Rs. 1,60,000.

The land revenue of the State during the year under report amounted to Rs. 9,69,301 against Rs. 9,16,188 in 1876-77, and an average of Rs. 6,46,300 for the five years immediately preceding The total of the current and arrear demand was Rs. 13,93,198, against Rs. 14,19,317 in 1876-77. The amount collected during the year was Rs. 9,10,622 against Rs. 9,74,809 in the previous year. The collection was thus not satisfactory. In the Sudder division, comprising pergunnahs Kuch Behar and Toofanganj, the balance due at the close of the year was 42 per cent. of the total demand. The entire excise revenue of the past year was Rs. 48,820, against Rs. 45,702 in 1876-77. The stamp revenue amounted during the year to Rs. 90,928, against Rs. 93,984 in 1876 77 and Rs. 75,746 in 1875-76. The total number of deeds registered was 4,926, against 4,231 during the preceding year, and the amount of fees collected was Rs. 3,517, against Rs. 3,334. The Police administration seems to be improving. The total number of cognizable and non-cognizable cases reported during the year was 2,892, against 3,109 in the preceding year and 2,879 in 1875-76 The cognizable cases fell from 1,644 to 1,571, and the non-cognizable cases from 1,465 to 1,321. The number of serious offences against the person decreased from 131 to 107, and of serious offences against property from 46 to 42. The prevailing crimes were petty theft, house-trespass, and assault. There was an increase in the number of reported cases of theft, which rose to 983 from 904 in the previous year, the number of true cases rising from 746 to 838. This increase is attributed to the growth of a strong body of chowkidars, who report petty cases in which the aggrieved party would think it too much trouble to prosecute. The average number of prisoners in confinement in the sudder jail was 231, the same as the average of the previous year. The average number of sick was 10·04 against 8·12 in 1876-77 and 12·15 in 1875-76. The death-rate was 2·2 per cent. of mean population, against 7·4 in 1876-77. The number of persons who received medical treatment at the charitable dispensaries was 15,525, against 12,143 in the preceding year. During the year under review the number of schools increased from 322 to 360, the number of pupils from 8,745 to 9,832, and the average daily attendance from 7,112 to 7,756. Calculating according to the ordinary method the number of children of an age fit to attend school, it appears that 22 per cent. attended school during the past year, against 20 per cent. in 1876-77. The results of the examinations at which the pupils competed were very satisfactory. Two boys passed the University Entrance Examination and one of them won a junior scholarship of the first grade. At the Vernacular scholarship Examination Kuch Behar passed 20 students and at the primary scholarship Examination 215 Cooch Beharis passed, against 74 in the previous year. Among the successful candidates were two girls, whose parents are stated to be orthodox Hindus. At the last general examination of Normal schools in Bengal, five out of the six candidates from the Kuch Behar Normal school passed, and all five are now employed in the Raj Schools. Considerable progress was made in female education during the year. On the 31st March 1877 there were 28 girls' schools with 439 pupils; at the end of the year under report there were 43 girls' school with a roll-call of 560 of whom 374 were Hindus and 186 Mehomedans. Many of the State officials and jotedars have set an excellent example by allowing their daughters to attend school. The cause of female education in Kuch Behar seems to be very promising. The Deputy Commissioner writes :

In Mekliganj, I am glad to say, in a few instances girls have continued to attend school, even after marriage. To encourage this the Superintendent suggests a system of girls scholarships If by any means such scholarships could be made a direct inducement to parents to permit their married daughters to continue to attend school, I would strongly advocate their institution. I look on our progress in this respect in this comparatively benighted State of Cooch Behar as so wonderful, that I think a small extra grant for this purpose might be sanctioned next year as a mark of especial favor. For it must be considered something to get these girls to attend school, even if they learn very little and forget that little afterwards. The number of schools and pupils is so considerable that some little leaven may find its way, and in time the whole lump may be leavened. Many of the State officials have set an excellent example in allowing their daughters to attend these schools; and also many very respectable jotedars. In the interior, however, the girl students mostly belong to the lower classes; for the very good reason that there are no upper ones.

Two adult females, one a Hindoo, and the other a Mahomedan, have opened schools, the former the daughter of an old guru, and the latter an ex-student of the school founded by the late Baboo Ruti Deb Buxi, and wife of a Poddar at Mathabhanga.

The Deputy Commissioner thus sums up the results of British administration of Kuch Behar : "During our tenure of power we have more than trebled the revenue; we have educated the heir apparent up to a high standard, and given him enlightened ideas which none of his predecessors had the slightest conception of." The administration of Kuch Behar by the British Government is really a credit to it.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE FOLLOWING notification has been issued by the Government of India directing a public mourning in consequence of the demise of Princess Alice :

HOME DEPARTMENT.
Notification.—Public.
No. 2241.
Fort William, the 17th December 1878.

Official intelligence having been received of the demise of Her Royal Highness Alice-Maud-Mary, Duches of Saxony daughter of Her Majesty the Queen Empress, Consort of His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, the Hon'ble the President in Council is pleased to direct that the Officers of Her Majesty's Civil, Military, and Marine Services do put themselves into mourning for a period of three weeks.

The President in Council requests that a similar mark of respect may, on this melancholy occasion, be observed by all other classes of British subjects in India.

The flag of Fort William will be hoisted half mast high on the 19th December from sunrise to sunset.

By Order of the Hon'ble the President in Council,
C. BERNARD,
Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

The loss of the Princess is a terrible blow to Her Majesty the Empress. She was deeply attached to her Royal mother, who in her turn cherished the greatest affection for her. On the death of Prince Albert hers was, says a contemporary, the brave strong heart on which the poor Queen lent in that hour of her great grief. It was then thus recorded in the *Times* of the young Princess : "Of the devotion and strength of mind shewn by the Princes Alice all this trying time, it is impossible to speak too highly. Her Royal Highness has indeed felt that it was her place to be a comfort and support to her mother in this affliction, and to her dutiful care we may perhaps owe it, that the Queen has borne her loss with exemplary resignation, and a composure which under so sudden and so terrible a bereavement could not have been anticipated." Her Royal Highness was born on the 25th April 1843, and married to Prince Louis on the 1st July 1862. Their child the Princess Mary Victoria was born on the Queen's birthday, 1874.

On the principle that sorrow shared is sorrow soothed we would suggest that Her Majesty's subjects, both European and Native, should unite and send her an address of condolence in her present affliction.

THE GARDEN PARTY at Belvedere appointed for to-morrow is postponed to the 9th proximo in consequence of the demise of Princes Alice.

ON SATURDAY last His Excellency the Viceroy returned to the capital. The weather was threatening the previous night, but we had Lord Lytton's weather on his arrival. His Excellency was received by a large number of the notables of the city, both European and Native, at the Railway terminus and at Government House. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, His Honor the President of the Council, Members of the Council, the Chief Justice, Puisne Judges and other high officials and independent gentlemen were in attendance at Government House. His Excellency looked in excellent health and spirits.

THE BENGAL COUNCIL reopened on Saturday last, His Honor the Lieutenant Governor presiding. His Honor announced the programme of business for the current session. By far the most important subjects are the Rent Recovery Bill and the Settlement of Rent Bill. A few minor bills relating to steam-boilers and prime movers, jute ware-houses, and lodging-houses and the like, will also be pushed through.

WE UNDERSTAND that Mr. J. B. Knight has been appointed member of the Bengal Council in succession to Mr. Jennings deceased. Mr. Knight's appointment gives general satisfaction.

WE UNDERSTAND that a chess match open to all comers in India has been arranged to be played in the Town Hall this day, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 11 o'clock to 5 o'clock each day. Three prizes, the first being of the value of 200 Rs., are to be given, and we

to be anticipated from it, frankly represented to Her Majesty's present advisers the difficulties attending the initiation of it; he believed the time and circumstances of the moment to be inopportune for placing British agents on the Afghan borders and was of opinion that such a step should be deferred till the progress of events justified more specific assurances to Shere Ali, which might then be given in the shape of a treaty followed by establishment of agencies at Herat and other suitable places. Her Majesty's Government, however, were unable to agree in this view; they deemed it probable that if events were thus allowed to march without measures of precaution on the part of the British Government the time would have passed when representations to the Ameer could be made with any probability of a favourable result; and they considered it important that the actual sentiments of His Highness in reference to which different opinions were held by different authorities, should be tested in good time.

It was from this time the policy of activity was initiated by Her Majesty's Government. Accordingly we are told that Lord Lytton in assuming the reins of the Government of India was instructed to offer to Shere Ali that same active countenance and protection which he had previously solicited at the hands of the Indian Government. But Shere Ali had lost faith in our Government and would not accept its proposals. It is plain from this narrative that if any body is responsible for the alienation of the Amir it was Her Majesty's Government; it was its refusal to guarantee the Amir protection from a Russian invasion, which made him sullen and discontented, and which led him to look upon our subsequent proposals with distrust. With what consistency can our Government now charge him with ingratitude? We regret that the Amir rejected our overtures, but how could he justly be blamed for it? He did his best to secure our good will, but when he failed to receive it, he naturally enough sought for the friendship of Russia. The present war has therefore no good moral basis. The question of policy in the present position of things is however, different, which we do not wish to discuss here.

FACTORY LEGISLATION.

THE Government of India has invited an expression of opinion from the several local Governments and public bodies on the subject of *factory legislation*. It has drafted a bill, the leading provisions of which are as follows: Factory is defined to mean

(*a*) any blast-furnace or other furnace or premises in or on which the process of smelting or otherwise obtaining any metal from the ore is carried on;

(*b*) any copper-mill;

(*c*) any mill, forge or other premises in or on which any process is carried on for converting iron into malleable iron, steel or tin-plate, or for otherwise making or converting steel;

(*d*) iron, copper and brass foundries, and other premises or places in which the process of founding or casting any metal is carried on;

(*e*) any premises in which steam, water or other mechanicals power is used for moving machinery employed in the manufacture of machinery or any article or metal;

(*f*) any premises in which the following manufactures or processes are carried on:—

Cotton-spinning, &c.

(*g*) any premises in the same occupation, situate in the same town or place, and constituting one trade-establishment in, on or within the precincts of which fifty or more persons are employed in any manual labour exercised by way of trade or for purposes of gain in or incidental to the making any article or part thereof, or the altering, repairing, ornamenting, finishing, or otherwise adapting the same for sale;

and every part of a Factory shall be deemed to be a Factory, except any part used exclusively as a dwelling:

A "child" means a child under the age of twelve years: "young person" means a person between the ages of twelve and sixteen years: It is provided that no person shall be employed in any factory—(*a*) during the year 1879, if he is under the age of seven years: (*b*) after that year, if he is under the age of eight years, and that no child shall be employed more than six and no young person more than eight, hours in any factory in any one day. Further, that no occupier of a factory shall allow any child or young person to clean any part of the mill-gearing or machinery of such factory while the same is in motion, or to work between the fixed and traversing parts of any self-acting machine while such machine is in motion by the action of the steam engine, water-wheel, or other mechanical power, as the case may be, and that dangerous parts of every machine shall be properly fenced.

The object of this Bill is thus two-fold, 1stly to regulate employment of labour in factories and hours of work, and 2ndly to provide measures for the prevention of accidents. With regard to the second object we do not think that there can be any difference of opinion. It is a primary duty of Government to protect the persons and lives of its subjects, and as the present law is not sufficient for the prevention of accidents in factories, we think legislation on the subject is necessary. We do not think that factory owners can reasonably object to the restrictions which it is proposed to impose on the employment of children and young men in the dangerous parts of a machinary or to proper fencing of the same. But the question of regulating the employment of factory labour and working hours is different. It cannot be denied that the establishment of mills for the manufacture of jute, cotton, paper, and the like has been a source of material benefit to the labouring classes. Hundreds, and in some cases thousands, are employed in these mills, and as the operatives are generally well paid, mill labor has become very attractive; men women, and children flock to those mills. As the Railway has converted villages into towns, so these mills have raised miserable hamlets into busy hives of industry. The result has been a general rise in the wages of labour. If the labouring classes have for the last two years stood the pressure of high prices, their ability to do so in many parts of the country has been not a little due to the prosperity, which has flown from the mills. It is, therefore, a matter of serious consideration, whether any interference with the free employment of labour in factories should be offered by the legislature. We are not aware that any necessity for such interference has arisen. We have had opportunities of seeing the actual working of several first class mills about this town, and we can bear personal testimony to the alacrity and cheerfulness with which men, women and children work in these factories. The operatives generally enjoy excellent health, and we have heard no complaints whatever on the score of over-work. The children we have seen looked both healthy and happy. Indeed, if these factory children were placed side by side with the University scholars at the annual convocation, the spectator, we feel confident, would not hesitate to say that the former enjoyed by far the better health. The factory children are full of blood, muscles, activity and energy, while the University scholars are pale, emaciated, sickly, and delicate. If considerations of humanity suggest legislative interference for the protection of the health of children and young men, the University machine decidedly requires more looking after than the cotton, jute and paper mills. The precedent of factory legislation in England does not apply to this country. Here the mill industry is new and on its trial. It requires the utmost encouragement, and not interference, and necessarily obstruction. The voluntary principle on which the mills in this country have been working has not been practically injurious, and there is therefore no necessity for legislative intervention. We object to sentimental legislation of any kind. It can only lead to practical inconvenience, injury, and wrong. Manchester would doubtless be delighted to see some clog put upon Indian competition with her goods, but the Indian legislature ought to look to the interests of India and not of Manchester. There are also practical difficulties in the way of the proposed legislation. The determination of age is always a difficult matter, and as there is no regular registration of births in this country, that difficulty cannot be easily overcome. Then again if a doctor should be required to give a health certificate before employment of children and young men in factories, and if he should withhold such a certificate from particular children and young men, what guarantee is there that they will not employ themselves elsewhere? They must live, and therefore work. Will it be just and humane to deprive them of the means of living? The overruling principle of self-interest in the owners of factories may be fitly trusted in the selection of labourers.

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THE FAMINE IN MYSORE.

MR. C. A. ELLIOTT, late Famine Commissioner in Mysore, has written a history of the Mysore Famine of 1876-78. It is able, lucid, and comprehensive, aye, exhaustive. It contains much valuable information regarding the condition and resources of Mysore. The irrigation system of Mysore is an interesting subject of study. About 15 per cent. of the cultivated area of the province, we are told, is irrigated, a small portion of it from wells and rivers, but mainly from tanks: and it is in these tanks that the most remarkable feature of Mysore consists. The country is everywhere undulating, so much so that it would probably be impossible anywhere to find a square mile of really level land. In all directions nothing is seen but hills and valleys; and this local characteristic has been utilised from time immemorial to check and control the water as it flows off. An earthen dam is thrown across the head of the valley, and a small pond is made which is filled by the first shower, the surplus flowing past the corner of the dam. Two hundred yards below is another and a larger dam: half a mile below, another. As the works grow larger, the dam is protected in front by a stone rivetment; the escape-channel is built in stone, and a masonry sluice is made for irrigation. Numerous side valleys run in, and as the main stream grows larger, the tanks it fills are more extensive and the works which control is stronger, till the bottom tank of such a series is often a lake as large as Derwentwater or Loch Katrine, and sometimes as large as Windermere. The number of these tanks is nearly 38,000, and the revenue paid by the land they irrigate is over 24 lakhs of rupees. They depend on local rains, and have no perennial or far-reaching source of supply, and a year of drought would suffice to dry most of them up. The area under irrigation is, as has been said, about 15 per cent. of the whole cultivation, but the return from wet land is so much larger than that from dry, that the produce of the irrigated area is probably about 25 per cent. of the whole produce of the country. Rice is not much eaten in Mysore except by Brahmins, but it always commands a ready sale for export, and it may broadly be said that the average ryot in ordinary years eats his ragi (with the other cognate dry crops), keeping a little for storing and for seed and selling enough to pay his revenue, and that he sells his rice to purchase clothes, sugar spices, and other luxuries. Mr. Elliott says that the life of the agriculturist in Mysore is rather an easy one. No such continuous toil is known to him as that which consumes the days and sometimes the nights of his brother in Northern India, whose rain crop, in seed, gives him but little labour, but who ploughs and re-ploughs half his fields twelve and fourteen times to prepare them for the rabi or cold weather crop, and throughout the winter months rises at three to work the well which must not cease to yield its trickle if the wheat is to be kept alive. In Mysore it is all or nearly all rain-crop. The fields are ploughed through twice or thrice and sown, and after that are pretty much left alone except for a single weeding till the crop is ripe. This easy system of agriculture tends to foster the habit of emigration to the Malnad during the cold weather. The coffee plantations offer employment to a great number of labourers in coffee-picking, which lasts mainly from November to the end of February. Then almost all the coolies return to their villages to keep the "Ugadi" feast or new year at home, only a few remaining permanently in the coffee districts, though a good number go back there in April when there is work to do in hoeing and weeding the planted ground, or clearing for fresh plantation. The tenure of land in Mysore is ryotwari. The Bombay Settlement Department is at work, surveying classifying, and assessing the land, but it has as yet hardly completed two districts, Chitaldrug Tumkur, with parts of some others. Where the assessment has been finished by this department, it has been done in accordance with the well-known Bombay system. Every block of land that was separately measured as a "survey number", has its revenue fixed for 30 years, and the ryot who "occupies" it pays that revenue whether he cultivates or not. He can resign it by giving due notice at the proper time, and any one can then apply for it and take it up. In its main outlines

honor in the service on which you are about to enter. God save the Empress of India.

The address was received with great enthusiasm by the native commanders, Dewan Ram Jus. of Kapurtha la, thanking the Viceroy and reiterating the professions of loyalty for the Punjab Chiefs.

EVEN the *Pioneer* protests against the working of the License tax. Our contemporary writes:

Bitter complaints are being made in many places concerning the way in which the License Tax is assessed and levied.

Sir John Strachey made a point of insisting that the work of assessment should be carried out by European officers personally, and he deprecated allowing it to fall into the hands of native subordinate officials. But in practice the work has fallen to that very class of officials against whose employment the financial member of Council so strongly protested. And the assessments when honestly intended are but guess-work. The Act does not provide for an inquiry before assessment; indeed, it would seem, from the tenor of Sir John Strachey's speech, that he deprecated any inquiry into a man's circumstances before grading him. Of course any examination of an inquisitorial nature in o a person's manner and s yle of living and sources of wealth would be intolerable; but there could be no valid objection to an inquiry into the probable trade profits of licensees, while considerable advantage would ensue if such an inquiry was always made a preliminary to grading.

As it now is, a small trader, earning some 6 or 8 annas a day, finds himself guessed, possibly by an enemy in the shape of a subordinate native official, into an excessive assessment. To right himself he has, possibly, to leaveh his village and walk some 30 miles or so to the court of the district officer, and 30 miles back, during which journey he loses certainly four working day's profits. He also has to pay 4 annas for his stamp, and about 2 annas to a writer to draw up his petition, and he loses another day whilst it is being thus got before the collector. A day being fixed for the hearing of his appeal, he has to return by that day, another 5 day' loss of working time, and 60 miles' trudge. Now comes into play another part of the Act. The petitioner has to satisfy the collector by the production of evidence that the amount he is assessed in will fall at a rate exceeding 2 per cent of his annual profits; but the collector is precluded by the Act from calling witnesses or adducing any evidence except at the request of the petitioner, or in order that he may ascertain the correctness of the facts alleged by him. Therefore when the petitioner says he only earns 6 annas a day, the collector must either believe him and his witnesses in support of that asse tion and remit assessment, or he must, if he distrusts his story, arbitrarily confirm the assessment; but in either case he can only be guided to his decision by the assertions of the petitioner and his witnesses, all of whom may be perjured, or by the guess work of the assessor.

Again:

There are a great many thousands of the industrial and petty trading classes who are taxed on the assessments of native subordinate officials in what must have been a hasty and haphazard fashion; because the assessors are already overweighted with their legitimate duties, and so even if honest and clean handed, must have been guided by irresponsible underlings—and who can say how much these were influenced by bribery or by feelings of revenge, or what injury carelessness may not have worked? Experience seems to indicate that the method, as provided by the Act for assessing and levying the license tax, is inadequate and works injustice. The people have chiefly been graded, as we have said, by guess-work, and therefore the incidence of the tax is unequal and arbitrary; the assessment being virtually left to native subordinates, much of the money of the people, rich and poor, finds its way into the pockets of the assessors, as much perhaps as is paid into the treasury; trade and industry suffer in proportion to oppressiveness with which the tax is levied; the net income derived from the tax is small in proportion to the expense, worry, and trouble of collecting it, and to the amount of irritation its unfair imposition engenders.

With regard to exemption of earnings below Rs. 100 per annum the writer remarks:

Sir John Strachey labours under the impression that a person earning Rs. 100 a year is not a 'poor man. Referring to the North West Provinces, Sir John Strachey told the Council that a man in possession of that income is not only not poor, but is far removed above poverty. Certainly he is not a pauper, but to say that a family man earning a little over 4 annas a day, with wheat at 8 seers the rupee, is not poor, but is "well able" to bear taxation, is, to use Sir John Strachey's own words by way of a *tu quoque* to be "ignorant of the facts." To be liable to famine taxation, an income should not be less than 8 annas a day.

Sir John Strachey's License tax is a grievous failure. It has filled the land with the deepest discontent from one end to another. Even the Vernacular Press Act has not repressed this discontent.

THE ORIENTAL CONGRESS at Florence was not without some ripples of discord. We read that as at St. Petersburgh so at Florence there were local feuds between the University and the Imperial Academy. At Florence the apple of discord was the question of the disendowment of the religious schools of the city, a measure to which the aristocracy were strongly opposed, and they showed their bitter feeling by holding aloof from the opening banquet given to the Congress by the King's brother, Prince Amadœ. Among other papers the American scholar, Leland, read a paper on the Gypsy language, which he traced to India. Mr. Brandreth of the Punjab laid before the section a paper comparing the Neo-Sanskrit with the Neo-Latin tongues. Afterwards, Dr. Leitner exhibited his new Greco-Buddhistic sculpture from Swat, and expounded his views of the sisterhood of the languages of Dardistan and other regions on the north western frontier of India with Sanskrit. Professor Benfey combated his conclusion. In the Indian section, Roth, the president, drew attention to a new manuscript on birch bark of the Atharva Veda, written in the Sarada character of Kashmir. It was most important as presenting an entirely unknown recension of the text, with very numerous various readings of great interest. Mr. Cust laid before the section his map of the non-Aryan languages of India classified in six divisions, which led to an interesting discussion.

THE FOLLOWING is the latest intelligence from Europe:

London 21st December.—At the Country Derry the election of the seat left vacant on account of the decease of the late member, the Liberal candidate has been returned by a large majority. At the adjournment of the Roumelian Commission, prince Dondonkoff Korsakoff addressed the Russian officials and enjoined them to support financial administration of the Commission. Consols closed at 94¼ being fall of ⅛ on previous quotations.

WAR TELEGRAMS.

Lahore 15th December.—Telegram from General Roberts dated Jajibhana 9th telegraphed from Thull 14th states finished reconnaisance to top, Shaturgardan, cold there severe, onward movement thus far necessary to complete defeat of 2nd instant has given full confidence to Tajis and convinced Ghilzais, who have been exceedingly civil. Summit of Kohtal proved only 11,200 feet instead of 13000, road easier than expected, presenting no great difficulty for Guns. On further side of Kohtal we found six field gun carriages and four limbers guns recently carried off. Fine view of Logar valley from Kohtal sent telegram dated Alikhel 11th instant, t legraphed Thull 14th states returned Alikhel yesterday not a shot fired since leaving Shaturgardan. Whole country from Thull to Shaturgardan quite friendly. Arranging with Ghilzais for protection, for Road from Alikhel to Shutergarden. Third Telegram dated Alikel 12th Thull 14th states, camp leaves Alikhel to-day in route for Kurrum Troops on Peiwar Kohtal well carefully looked after by General The wall position rapidly being placed in thorough defence. Road up to Kohtal is now fit for wheeled artillery. All well.

17*th.*—Telegram to-day from General Roberts reports an attack made on the 13th on Baggage of his colu nn near Koriah in Kurram by band of marauding Mangal tribes. Baggage all saved heavy loss inflicted on assailants though ground was most favourable to them. We lost and killed three men, Fifth Ghurkas wounded Captain Goad transport Captain Powell Fifth Ghurkas and 13th men Ghurkas who formed reargnard behaved admirably. Good service done by men 72 Highlanders with Henry Martinis, attack unprovoked. We were not near Mangal country. Supposed instigated by refugees of Amirs army as men with Amir's uniform seen among assailants. Captains Goad and Powell and one Ghurka badly wounded rest slight.

17*th.*—General Stewart has joined General Bid lulph Khojak Pass. Men Road making Camels collecting, supplies comsng in freely.

18*th.*—General Sir Sam Browne reports all quiet in Khaibar Pass and neighbourhood Telegram from General Bidduiph states he has occupied eastern side of Khojak Pass and improved road sufficiently to continue advance on 15th he has pes to arrange with local tribes for keeping pass open many offers of service received prospect of supplies, beyond pass satisfactory.

22*nd*—Authentic information received of the flight of Amir from Kabul, for Turkistan, accompanied by remaining officers of the Russian Mission. Yakub Khan released left at Kabul. Amir seems to have nearly lost all authority at Kabul before his departure, large number of soldiers deserted. Our troops expected to reach Jellallabad yesterday Friday.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	As.	P.
Engineer in Chief N B.S.R. Saidpore	61	8	0
Secretary Shajehanpore Lite ary Institute	13	4	0
Rai Luchmiput Singh Bahadoor, Moorshedabad	26	8	0
Syud Wager Hossain, Colgong	6	10	0
Seth Roghoobor Doyal Das, Mouziddingore	6	10	0
Denesh Pershad, Jummi	10	0	0
Secretary City Library, Amraoti	13	4	0
Chairman Road Cess Committee, Buckergunge	5	8	0
Baboo Kadar Nath Chatterjee, Serampore	13	4	0
,, Poornno Chunder Bose, Julpigore	6	3	0
,, Muddon Mohan Das, Sylhet	5	0	0
,, Hurry Mohan Gooho, Comuilla	13	4	0
,, Womes Chunder Banerjee, Golaghat	13	0	0
,, Anund Persad Ghose, Dera Ismailkhan	6	10	0
,, Khetter Mohan Mookerjee, Rush rhat	6	10	0
,, Jogobundoo Dey, Buxar	6	10	0
,, Hurry Nath Singh, Saidpore	4	4	0
,, Jodoo Nath Mookerjee, Midnapore	40	0	0
,, Anund Mohan Mojoomdar Sreepore	0	3	0
,, Kylash Chunder Chatterjee, Contai	8	4	0
,, Makhon Lal Ghose, Dhulah	13	4	0
,, Shamsoondar Sahai, Chuprah	13	4	0
,, Charoo Chunder Mitra, Bibigunge, Dinapore	3	6	0
,, Bhobany Nath Roy, Sajadpore	5	0	0
,, Sib Chunder Chatterjee, Hooghly	13	4	0
,, Anoroor Chunder Chowdry, Chittagong	13	4	0
,, Nobo Coomar Bhur, Lucknow	13	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette.—*December* 18, 1878.

GENERAL.—The Hon'ble W. F. McDonell, v.c., is appointed to be President of the Board of Examiners to conduct the examination of candidates for admission as Pleaders and Mooktears, *vice* Mr. W. Markby.

Mr. W.S. Wells is appointed to be Magistrate and Collector of the 24 Pergunnahs.

Mr. P. Nolan, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act temporarily as Magistrate and Collector of that district, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Mr. C. D. C. Winter, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhoom, who reported his return from furlough on the 12 h ultimo, is allowed subsidiary leave from that date to the 19th idem, to enable him to join his appointment.

In supersession of orders dated the 23rd ultimo, Mr. W B. Martin, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, who reported his return from furlough on the forenoon of the 20th November 1878, is allowed subsidiary leave from that date to the 29th idem, to enable him to join his appointment at Doomka in the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

Mr. W. F. Meres, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870.

Baboo Rai Churn Ghose, Fourth Special Commissioner under the Chota Nagpore Tenures' Act, having reported his return to duty on the 25th ultimo, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under the orders of the 5th November last is cancelled.

Baboo Komal Narain Chukerbutty is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, *vice* Baboo Sasi Bhusan Sen, and is posted to Contai, in Midnapore.

Baboo Dino Nath Ghose is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, *vice* Moulvi Soojat Ali Ahmed, and is posted to Tumlook, in Midnapore.

Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Chittagong, who returned from furlough on the 15th ultimo is allowed su sidi ry leave from that date to the 27th idem to enable him to join his appo n ment.

Mr. W. Feddan, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Bogra, who reported his return from furlough on the 28th ultimo, is allowed subsidiary leave for twenty days from that date, to enable him to join his appointment.

Mr. E. R. Middleton, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kissengunge, on leave, is allowed leave for three months under Section 3, Supplement F. to the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted to him under orders of the 21st March 1878.

Baboo Jadob Chunder Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chumparun, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. W. B. Oldham Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is allowed leave for two months under the Rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as his services may be replaced at the disposal of this Government by the Government of Madras.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

The Public is aware that I am undergoing the examination of the Bedant Shastar from the last thirteen months, by the Punchayet of best Pundits, and number of visitors. Now the result which it appears from it is several good students are resorted to enter into the Tole, or university provided I was able to erect or establish, under the circumstances of the case. I would respectfully beg to solicit the aid of the affluent men of this Town, who if they move their compassion, may subscribe through the medium of the *Hindoo Patriot*.

If Bedant be read by any man, it will not only enlighten his mind but he will govern his passions by which he is now governed, and the oppressive country will be less suffered by the acts of misdemeanor in general.

GRISH CHUNDER BRAMOCHARY.

"The sale of the leases of the lime quarries in the Khasi and Jaintia Hills District *will be held at Sylhet, on the 2nd January* 1879, *instead of at Shillong as previously advertised.*"

W. S. Clarke,
Deputy Commissioner

FOR SALE

Garden House No. 30 North Narkeldangah Road.	For Particulars apply to K. L. Dutt. Medical College Library.

A Special General Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall, on Saturday, the 28th December 1878, at 3 P. M., for the following purposes:—

1. To appoint a Collector of taxes under Section 32 of Act IV. (B. C.) of 1876.
2. The Chairman to submit vital statistics for the months of October and November.
3. The Chairman to submit for confirmation proceedings of the Town Council, at Meetings held on the 28th October, 14th and 30th November.
4. The Chairman to lay on the table proceedings of the Municipal Commissioners for the purpose of hearing appeals agninst assessments of houses and lands held on the 19th and 21st November 1878.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

WANTED.

For the Suburban Municipality temporarily a Surveyor and leveller on Rupees 40 per mensem. Candidates must be thoroughly competent in field Works as well as in ploting and drawing plans:—

Applications with copies of testimonials will be received by the undersigned up to the 10th January 1879.

Dated Allipore } R. C. Sterndale
The 12th December 1878. } *Vice-Chairman.*

BURDWAN.

Agricultural Exhibition

Notice.

An Exhibition of agricultural produce, implements and Cattle of native arts and Manufactures : and of Live-stock, will be held at Burdwan on January 27th and the four following days. Copies of rules and list of prizes may be had on application to the Honorary Secretary, Burdwan.

FOR SALE by private contract the profits, amounting to Rs. 24,000 per annum derived from zemindaries in one of the best parts of Bengal.

For particulars and terms apply to

ROBERTS MORGAN & Co.,
Solicitors.
1, *Hastings street,*
Calcutta,

VERY VERY SUPERIOR COKE.

Special Select Quality.

Two maunds of this being equal to three maunds of that ordinarily sold. It is perfectly dry and pure not being mixed with any inferior stuff. Price per md. ten 10 annas cart and cooly hire 2, 3 and 4 pice per md. according to distance.

W. L. ATKINSON CO.,
5, Old Court House Street.

A Special General Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall, on Monday, the 30th December 1878, at 3 P. M., to consider the revised Budgets, and to fix the rates and taxes to be levied for the year 1879.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

21*st, December* 1878.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

Special reduced rates for Gunnies.

On and from 1st December next Gunnies in consignments of 200 maunds and upwards will be carried over the Northern Bengal State and Eastern Bengal Railways at ½ a pie per maund per mile with the addition of one anna six pie per maund as Ferry charge.

By Order,
G. M. DRURY,
Traffic Supdt.

Traffic Supdt.'s Office }
Saidpore,27th November 1878. }

APPLICATIONS will be received by the undersigned up to noon of Saturday the 21st instant, for the appointment of Collector to the Corporation of the Town of Calcutta. The person who may be appointed will be required to furnish security in Cash, Government Paper, Municipal Debentures, or Bank of Bengal Shares, amounting to Rs. 50,000, also in approved personal security amounting to Rs. 50,000 ; and he shall receive a Commission at the rate of 1½ per cent upon the collection of the Municipal rates, fees and dues, which will be realized through his agency.

Further particulars can be obtained on application.

R. TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

The undersigned will receive offers up to noon of Saturday the 21st December for leasing the undermentioned public latrines for one year commencing from the 1st of January 1879.

Sham Bazar.
Hurro Lall Mitter's Street.
Durmahatta Street.
Hogulcooria Street.
82, Upper Circular Road.
102, Machooa Bazar Street.
10, Kalakur Street.
Ram Coomar Rakhit's Lane.
100, Chitpore Road.
31, Chitpore Road.
85, Hurrinbaree Lane.
33, Chattawalla Gully.
8, Bow Bazar Street.
52, Emambarry Lane.
Emambag Lane.
4, Gowaltooly.
86, Wallesley Street.
76, Jaun Bazar Street.
Park Street.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

Notice.

From the 16th December the Government Steamer "Midnapore" will ply between Calcutta and Dainan on the Midnapore Canal.

She will leave Armenian Ghat at 9 A. M., every Monday, Wednesday and Friday and Dainan at 9 A. M. every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Fares from Calcutta to Dainan.

1st Class passenger including two servants and four maunds of luggage Rs. 6. Children under 12 half price.

2nd Class Rs. 3 including 1 servant and 2 maunds luggage.

Intermediate or foredeck including ½ maund luggage Re. 1.

3rd, Class (after deck) only bundle allowed annas 8.

Fares to intermediate stations can be ascertained on board. A Khansamah with cooking pots, crockery, &ca., will be kept on board who will mess 1st class passenger at his own rates not exceeding Re. 1 a meal. Passengers bringing their own supplies with them must still pay the Khansamah the above rate. Cargo will be carried at two annas per maund from Calcutta to Dainan, any parcel less than one maund being charged as one maund.

The rates to the intermediate stations can be ascertained on board.

The rates for both passengers and goods are the same from Dainan to Calcutta as from Calcutta to Dainan.

There is accommodation on board for—

4—1st Class passengers.
12—2nd „ „
12—Intermediate passengers.
40—Third Class „

The Government do not hold themselves responsible for delay, detention or unforeseen accidents, but every effort will be made to insure safety and to keep good time.

D. B. HORN,
Assistant Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal in the P. W. Dept. Irrigation Branch.

BEST PURE DRY COKE not mixed with burnt coal, not damped with water—per maund 8 as. Taking 20 maunds, cart and cooly hire 2,3 and 4 pice per maund extra, according to distance and delivered at purchasers houses.

W. L. ATKINSON & Co.
5 Old Court House Street.

IMPORTANT.

Best Pure Coke,
Best Burnt Coal,
Can be had from the 6th December, Apply to—
W. L. ATKINSON & Co.
2nd December 1878. 5 Old Court House Street.

NATIONAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION BENGAL BRANCH.

Native gentlemen requiring Teachers for the Zenana can be supplied on application to Messrs. J. B. Knight, 4½ Esplanade.

M. S. KNIGHT,
Honorary Secretary.

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

ALTERATION OF TRAINS.

On and from 1st January 1879 and until further notice trains will run as under on the Northern Bengal State Railway.

UP TRAINS.

Mail Dep. Sara Ghat.....	7-30 P. M.
Arr. Siliguri	9-18 A. M.
Mixed Dep. Sara Ghat	6-50 „
Arr. Julpaiguri	10-27 P. M.

Where it will terminate.

DOWN TRAINS.

Mail Dep. Siliguri	8- 0 P. M.
Arr. Sara Ghat	9-15 A. M.
Mixed Dep. Jalpaiguri...	3-40 P.M. its starting station.
Arr. Sara Ghat	7-30 P. M.

The up mail runs in connection with the Eastern Bengal Railway train leaving Calcutta 1 P. M., and the Down mail with the Eastern Bengal Railway train arriving at Calcutta 4 P. M.

The up mixed train runs in connection with the Eastern Bengal Railway train leaving Calcutta at 9-30 A. M., and the Down mixed train with the Eastern Bengal Railway train arriving at Calcutta 6 A. M.

By Order,
G. M. DRURY.
Traffic Superintendent.

Traffic Superintendent's Office }
Saidpore, 1st December 1878. }

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO

9, ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA.

SOLE AGENTS FOR

Messrs. CHUBB AND SONS'

LOCKS.
LATCHES.
CASH BOXES.
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ILLUSTRATED PRICED CATALOGUES FORWARDED FREE TO ANY PART OF INDIA ON APPLICATION.

Manufacturers of and Agents for Sale of Jeben's Patent Swift and Sure Transplanting Tools.

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To HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,
Calcutta,
AYUR VEDA MEDICAL HALL
No. 146, *Lower Chitpore Road.*
C. K. SEN & CO'S
Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 *Annas. Postage &c.*, 8 *Annas*
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN. & Co. 's
CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. *If it be* of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. It also restores the virile powers which have been lost on account of the malady.

Price per box Rs. 2, postage & 8 annas.
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN. & CO.'S
Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eyesight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. *Postage &c.*, 10 *As.*
2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN & CO. 'S
Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual, constipation, gleat, gonorrhœa, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
Postage 4 As.

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager

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BY APPOINTMENT
To His Excellency the Right Hon'ble
LORD LYTTON, G.M.S.I.
VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA,
&c., &c., &c.,
BATHGATE & CO.,
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS.
CALCUTTA.

DR. BRIGHT'S
PHOSPHODYNE.
The new curative Agent and reliable Remedy for Nervous and Liver Complaints.
Discovered and introduced by Charles Leslie Bright, M.D.

This Phosphetic Preparation is pronounced by the most eminent members of the Medical Profession to be unequalled for its power in replenishing the vitality of the body by its supplying all the essential constituents of the blood and nerve substance, and for developing all the powers and functions of the system to the highest degree. It is agreeable to the palate and innocent in its action while retaining all its extraordinary properties.

The beneficial effects of the Phosphodyne are frequently shown from the first day of its administration by a remarkable increase of nervous power, with a feeling of vigour and comfort to which the patient has long been unaccustomed.

Price per case, Rs. 6-8 cash ; Rs. 8 credit.

DR. LALOR'S
PHOSPHODYNE
The only Safe, Prompt, Reliable PHOSPHORIC Remedy, for overworked Brain, Worry, Anxiety, Excitement, Late Hours, Nervous Prostration, Wasting Diseases, Debility, Consumption, Stomach, and Liver Complaints.

To Residents in India, China, and the Colonies, it will prove invaluable as a Liver Tonic

THE PHOSPHODYNE ACTS ELECTRICALLY
Upon the organization. For instance it assists Nature, through the cerebral apparatus, to generate that human electricity which renews and rebuilds the osseous muscular, nervous, membraneous, cartilaginous, and organic systems ; it operates on the muscles of the system, without exciting care or thought upon the individual as to the process. It moves the lung, heart, liver, kidneys, stomach, and intestines, with a harmony, vigour, yet quietness, unparalleled in medicine.

Price Per bottle each Rs. 4 credit R4-8

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.
ESTABLISHED 1809.
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HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T.
Vice-Presidents.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.
General Court of Directors.
Right Hon'ble Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., & P.C., Chairman.
Report by the Directors
PRESENTED TO THE
Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company,
Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

Life Business.

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049 : 10.: 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863 : 10 : 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446 : 17 : 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576 : 19 : 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248 : 8 : 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768 : 11 : 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479 : 16 : 6.

INDIAN BRANCH.
CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.
1, HASTING STREET, CALCUTTA.
General Agents : ROBERTS, MORGAN & CO.,
No. 1, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

Notice
AFGHAN EXPEDITION.
An extra rate of 3 guineas will be charged to Officers proceeding on active service into Afghanisthan.

No More Pains!!.
THE
INFALLIBLE PAIN-CURER.
Warranted to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Headache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Swellings, Old Sores, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, or spots on the face, and Eruptions on the Skin.

Pains of every description have been cured by the outward application only of this medicine, when all the skill of the medical art has been tried without effect,
Per bottle Re. 1 ; Large size Rs. 2, packing & postage As. 8,
DARLINGTON & CO.
49, Dhurrumtollah-Street, Calcutta.

☞ Call for DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER. Thousands of Testimonials of the marvellous cures by this remedy.

The following is from an influential zemindar, the Vice-Chairman of the Municipality of Burisaul, and one who writes after taking from us 9 bottles of the Infallible Pain-Curer.

MESSRS. DARLINGTON & Co., 49 Dhurrumtollah St. Calcutta.

Dear Sirs.—Please send me two bottles more (large size) of your Infallible Pain-Curer. I am happy to observe that I have witnessed beneficial results from its application. Some of my friends used it, and I also gave to some of my servants, I was pleasingly surprised to see that in every instance it kept true to its name. Yours faithfully.—EDWARD BROWN.

DARLINGTON'S SPLEEN MIXTURE.
Has invariably proved successful in curing enlargement of the Spleen of several years standing. It has always effected a cure when other medicines have signally failed, Re. 1 Post. As. 14.
DARLINGTON & CO.,
49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

SPECIMEN COPIES OF THE CALCUTTA MAGAZINE May be had by remitting 32 half anna postage stamps to the Manager CALCUTTA MAGAZINE, 49, Dhurrumtollah Street Calcutta.

New Civil Procedure Code.
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জান ডিকিন্সন কোং।
ছাপার কাগজ প্রস্তুতকারক।

লণ্ডন নগরীস্থ, ওল্ডরেলী নামক পল্লির ৬৫নং ভবন সিংহ চিহ্নিত ছাপাইবার প্রসিদ্ধ বিলিতি কাগজ ষ্টেসনরস হাল নামক বিলাতস্থ সরকারি আপিসে রেজষ্টরি করা হইয়াছে।

নিম্নলিখিত রকমের কাগজ প্রাপ্তব্য।

চর্ম্মরঙ্গের টিকিটওয়ালা	সর্ব্বোৎকৃষ্ট
লাল টিকিটওয়ালা	অনেক উৎকৃষ্ট
কৃষ্ণবর্ণ টিকিটওয়ালা	নূতন প্রকার
নীল টিকিটওয়ালা	কতক নরম
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Apply to *Printer*.

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A large supply of Books both from England and America, per "S. S. *Peshwar*" and "S. S. *Explorer*."
To be had at DATTA'S Laboratory. **HOMŒOPATHIC**
No. 312, Chitpore Road ; Battalah, Calcutta,
☞ *Illustrated Price list free on application ; postage ½ anna.* Terms Easy. Cash.
B. K. DATTA,—Homœo. Practitioner.

WANTED
A Professor of Chemistry to teach the F. A. classes at the Cathedral Mission College, Calcutta. Salary Rs. 25 per month for not more than six hours a week. Apply to the Principal.
Rev. Dr. A. F. R Hœrnle.

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JEWELLERS AND SILVERSMITHS, CALCUTTA

Beg to draw the attention of the various Educational Departments of Government, and of all Donors of Prizes to **Colleges and Schools.** to their large and varied stock of

SILVER MEDALS.

Suitable for presentation to Students and successful Prize-winners.

We would mention that the Designs & ornamentation in these Medals are not engraved, but are raised in high relief, which produces a much handsomer effect.

The prices quoted are for Medals and cases only. Any engraving or inscription which may be ordered to be cut upon them will be subject to a further charge, varying according to the cost of production.

The "Star and Crown" Medal Rs. 16
Back left quite plain for engraving.

The "Temple of Fame" Medal, 1¾ inches Rs. 22
The "Triumph of Industry" Medal, 1¼ „ „ 16
The "Laurel Wreath" Medal, 1¼ „ „ 14
Plain Silver Medals, 1¼ inches diameter Rs. 11 in case.
„ „ „ 1½ „ „ 15 „
Silver Medals with wreath on each side, 1¾ inches diameter Rs. 20

Each complete in morocco case.

Gold Medals we make to order, at prices ranging from Rs. 50 to 200.

HAMILTON & Co.
WATCH AND CLOCK MAKERS,
Calcutta.

SPECIFIC FOR DYSMENORRHŒA
OR
PAINFUL MENSTRUATION (বাধক বেদনা)
A single administration during menses generally cures the disease and brings on conception."

For particulars apply to Dr. Bhoobun Mohun Sircar, No. 77, Mooktaram Baboo's Street, Chore Bagan, Calcutta.—**Price Rs. 3-8,**
Sole Agents. B. M. SIRCAR. & Co.

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"HIGH EDUCATION IN INDIA"
AN
Essay read at the Bethune Society on the 25th April last, with important additions
BY
CHUNDER NATH BOSE, M.A.
To be had at the Canning Library, 55, College Street, Calcutta.—Price 8 annas ; postage 1 anna.

FOR SALE
Lokenathpore, Nuddea ; A large two-storied house in a well wooded compound of about 75 beegahs more or less. The house contains dining room, drawing-room, Billiard room, 6 bed rooms, 4 dressing rooms, and six bath rooms. There are out buildings, cook room, bake house, stable, servants' houses &c., and a large vegetable garden. Ground rent only 135 Rs. per annum—The place is situated one mile from Joyrampore Station and Post Office on the Eastern Bengal Railway and 76 miles from Calcutta. Apply to Messrs Colvin Cowie & Co., where a photograph of the house may be seen, or to Messrs Roberts Morgan & Co., who have an abstract of the title.

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